

JPRS-NEA-87-016

10 FEBRUARY 1987

## Near East/South Asia Report

**FBIS** FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

#### NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

#### PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

## NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

### CONTENTS

#### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

##### REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Libya Reportedly Releases 20 'Pro-Fatah' Palestinians (AL-ITTIHAD, 26 Dec 86) .....	1
--	---

##### ARAB AFRICA

##### EGYPT

Briefs	
Saudi Delegation Arrives .....	2

##### LIBYA

Tubruq Meeting Discusses Need To Implement Decisions (JANA, 19 Dec 86) .....	3
Briefs	
Industrial Cooperation With Sudan .....	4
Maltese Minister Departs Tripoli .....	4

##### MOROCCO

Statement by Central Office of Human Rights Association (AL-MASAR, 17 Dec 86) .....	5
Statement by Democratic Labour Confederation (AL-MASAR, 9 Dec 86) .....	8
Hunger Strike at Laalou Prison (AL-MASAR, 17 Dec 86) .....	12

Briefs		
Students Arrested in Oujda		14
TUNISIA		
Mzali Son-in-Law Charged With Forming Secret Intelligence Network (LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE, 12 Oct 86) .....		15
Destourian Socialist Party Secretary General Interviewed (Rachid Sfar Interview; DIALOGUE, 3 Nov 86) .....		17
Bourguiba, Jr. Visits Japan (LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE, 18 Nov 86) .....		20
Statistics on Chemical Industries (DIALOGUE, 17 Nov 86) .....		22
Goals of Energy Agency (Moncef Ben Abdallah Interview; DIALOGUE, 10 Nov 86) ....		24
Scanning Electron Microscope Installed in Monastir (LE TEMPS, 19 Nov 86) .....		29
Briefs		
Soviet Military Delegation in Bizerte		30
ARAB EAST/ISRAEL		
IRAQ		
Soviet Ambassador in Baghdad on War, Arms Deal (INA, 13 Jan 87) .....		31
CPCZ Delegation Holds Talks With Ba'th Official (INA, 13 Jan 87) .....		32
JORDAN		
Jerusalem Arabic on Husayn LE MONDE Interview (Ezra Shirazi; Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World, 14 Jan 87) .....		33
LEBANON		
Junblatt Predicts Civil War To Last Until 1995 (Salim Nassar; AL-MUSTAQBAL, 20 Dec 86) .....		35
MONDAY MORNING Interview With Fadlallah (Sayyed Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah Interview; MONDAY MORNING, 29 Dec 86-4 Jan 87) .....		39



Al-Hashim Optimistic About De-Escalation, Accord With Syria (Joseph al-Hashim Interview; AL-HAWADITH, 2 Jan 87) ....	43
Prospects for Nationwide Political, Economic Solutions Reviewed (AL-HAWADITH, 19 Dec 86) .....	50
Briefs	
Amal Welcomes Summit	55
SAUDI ARABIA	
Briefs	
Television Relay Centers	56
SYRIA	
AL-THAWRAH Links Murphy Tour To Islamic Summit (Damascus Domestic Service, 10 Jan 87) .....	57
Press Criticizes Murphy Tour of Middle East (Damascus Domestic Service, 9 Jan 87) .....	58
PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN	
Official Arrives in Saudi Arabia (Aden Domestic Service, 26 Dec 86) .....	60
YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC	
Briefs	
President Calls for Arab Summit	61
SOUTH ASIA	
AFGHANISTAN	
Press Conference Details Certain PDPA Economic Policies (HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, 4 Sep 86) .....	62
Retail Stores Expanding in Government Sector (HEYWAD, 6 Sep 86) .....	69
INDIA	
Briefs	
Haryana Cabinet Changes	71
IRAN	
West's 'Propaganda Counterattack' Discussed (ETTELA'AT, 1 Dec 86) .....	72

Minister of Islamic Guidance on Cultural Activities Abroad (Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami Interview; KEYHAN, 18 Oct 86)	75
Official Details Economic Accomplishments, Activities (Haj Seyyed Taqi Khamushi Interview; RESALAT, 8 Nov 86)	79
Millions Set Aside for Various Projects in Sistan, Baluchestan (JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, 1 Nov 86)	86
Land Deeds Issued to Qualified Farmers (JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, 1 Nov 86)	88
Unemployment Insurance Bill Detailed (JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, 1 Nov 86)	91
Militant Women March in Capital (ETTELA'AT, 30 Nov 86)	96
Rafsanjani Lauds Women's Movement (ETTELA'AT, 1 Dec 86)	99
High Number of Casualties Reported During Last Attack (London KEYHAN, 8 Jan 87)	102
Thousands Said Sent To Die Due to Group Infighting (London KEYHAN, 8 Jan 87)	104
Anti-Regime 'Combat Women's Organization' Appeals to UN (London KEYHAN, 8 Jan 87)	106
Opposition Paper Portrays Gloomy Future for Economy (London KEYHAN, 8 Jan 87)	108
Briefs	
Bonus to Wheat Farmers	111

#### PAKISTAN

Commentary on Government Maltreatment of Political Prisoners (AMN, 16 Nov 86)	112
Attention to Public Service Problems in Karachi Urged (AMN, 11 Nov 86)	114

/9987

LIBYA REPORTEDLY RELEASES 20 'PRO-FATAH' PALESTINIANS

JN271920 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 26 Dec 86

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that yesterday Libya released 20 pro-fatah Palestinians who had been detained there. The released persons will leave Tripoli for Malta within the next 2 days and will later depart for Lebanon. Sources close to the Palestinian leadership described this Libyan step as a gesture of goodwill after allowing PLO representative Sulayman al-Shurafa (Abu Tariq) to assume his post last week. These sources expect PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi's long awaited visit to Tripoli to take place shortly with the aim of discussing the resumption of normal relations between the two sides after a few years gap during which these relations were characterized by either estrangement or chillness.

/7358

CSO: 4500/47

## BRIEFS

SAUDI DELEGATION ARRIVES---Kuwait, 5 January (KUNA)--Counsellor to the Saudi Defense Minister Sheikh Malik, arrived in Cairo last night heading an official delegation on a week long visit to Egypt, radio SAWT AL-ARAB said. The radio added the Saudi military delegation will hold talks with Egyptian military officials "to develop military cooperation between the two Arab countries'. Meanwhile, Kuwaiti daily AL-WATAN Monday noted that the visit is the first officially announced one since the two countries severed relations when late Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat signed the Camp David peace agreement with Israel in 1979. [Text] [Kuwait KUNA in English 0810 GMT 5 Jan 86 LD] /12913

CSO: 4400/100

LIBYA

TUBRUQ MEETING DISCUSSES NEED TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS

LD200016 Tripoli JANA in English 0933 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli, al Kanun 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The masses of the Basic People's Congress in the city of Tubruq held an emergency session yesterday evening to discuss and study the contents of the recent article in AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR newspaper.

During serious and responsible discussion, the congress's masses stressed the importance of carrying out all their decisions and hasten immediately the process of revolutionary secretion [as received] so that the masses be able to impose control on all their destinies and manage their affairs by themselves away from manipulation, despotism, oppression and tyranny.

The people's masses declared their eternal adherence to the pioneering human theses of the Third Universal Theory--the thought of the Green Book--and their insistence on action to implement all the revolutionary dictums.

They stressed the need for speeding up the process of bringing to account all dealers, reactionists and infiltrators before the masses which will take away all their tools from them to prevent them from disrupting the march of Jamahiri happy society--all people's society.

/7358

CSO: 4500/47

## BRIEFS

INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WITH SUDAN--Tripoli, Al-Kanoun 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--A Libyan Arab industrial delegation conducted talks with Sudanese officials on possibilities of fostering industrial cooperation between the two sisterly countries and the use of joint resources to set up industrial projects especially in the field of canned fruit industry. Within this context the Libyan Arab delegation met with Mr Mubdrak al-Fadil al-Mahdi, the Sudanese minister of industry, and reviewed the issues of cooperation in the industrial domain between the two sisterly countries. The Libyan Arab industrial delegation held talks in this subject with Mr Idris al-Banna, the deputy chairman of the Council of State, and Dr 'Ali Taj-al-Din, member of the council. [Text] [Tripoli JANA in English 1426 GMT 20 Dec 86 LD] /7358

MALTESE MINISTER DEPARTS TRIPOLI--Tripoli, 22 Dec (JANA)--Maltese Industry Minister Karmenu Vela left Tripoli this evening after a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah during which he had talks on strengthening and consolidating the existing cooperation between the Great Jamahiriyah and Malta in the industrial field in order to serve the common interests of the two friendly peoples. [Text] [Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Dec 86 LD] /7358

CSO: 4500/47

## MOROCCO

### STATEMENT BY CENTRAL OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION

Rabat AL-MASAR in Arabic 17 Dec 86 p 9

[Article: "Statement Issued by the Central Office of the Moroccan Human Rights Association on the Occasion of the Anniversary of the International Declaration of Human Rights"]

[Excerpts] In the midst of this international situation Morocco finds itself in a position that is neither satisfactory nor reassuring as far as human rights and public as well as personal liberties are concerned.

Although Morocco did sign a number of international agreements that have to do with human rights, it has not brought some of its laws in line with those agreements. Secondly, the principles of those agreements have been violated. Thirdly, Morocco has not yet signed the voluntary protocol which is appended to the international agreement on civil and political rights. Nor has it signed the international agreement against torture and against brutal, inhumane and abusive treatment.

So far Morocco has also not complied with appeals, recommendations and requests that have been made by political, trade union, social and legal organizations, including our own association. The aim of those appeals, recommendations and requests is to repeal the laws that infringe upon human rights and liberties.

Our association has been and still is the foremost victim of human rights violations in Morocco. Officials have virtually restricted its activities, and many of its members have been arrested. Our association was prevented twice from holding its national conference: in March and May of 1983. It was also prevented several times from carrying out activities that have to do with human rights and liberties.

Conditions in Moroccan jails are still deteriorating with regard to overcrowding, food, health, medical care, sanitation, housing, furnishings, clothing, bathing and treatment. As a result there have been several deaths among prisoners and collective strikes by them.

The reasonable and legitimate demands which have been made by political prisoners have provoked a response that, according to conditions and circumstances, falls somewhere between acts of reprisal and a total withdrawal of



privileges. These demands include the right of notification and the right to receive direct visits. The prisoners also demanded improvements in their food, housing, health [services] and treatment conditions. And the government's response has led to hunger strikes of limited and unlimited duration and to deaths and bodily harm.

Citizens are facing a situation in which their right to lead an honorable life is being infringed upon daily because of the erosion of their purchasing power and the rise in prices across the board.

Our citizens in Ceuta and Melilla are also being oppressed, persecuted and exploited by Spanish colonialists in a variety of ways. Our workers who emigrated to Western Europe are experiencing the bitterness of living in a foreign country, and they are also experiencing the anguish of racism and the consequences of being fired from their jobs.

In reviewing all that on the occasion of the anniversary of the International Declaration of Human Rights, the Central Office of the Moroccan Human Rights Association can only [announce the following]:

1. It is announcing once again that the Moroccan Human Rights Association maintains its commitment and its determination to pursue the course of achieving all its principles and objectives.
2. It is calling once again for the withdrawal and repeal of all legislation that directly or indirectly infringes upon public and personal liberties.
3. The Central Office is committed to the spirit of international agreements that have to do with human rights and that Morocco has signed.
4. The Central Office is calling for ratification of and adherence to international agreements which have not yet been signed or ratified by Morocco but which have to do with human rights.
5. The Central Office is calling for a general, comprehensive legislative amnesty to be issued to all those who were arrested because of their opinions or their political and trade union activities. The Central Office is calling for guarantees to be issued so that these people can exercise their national rights in full.
6. The Central Office is calling upon officials to take concrete steps to liberate the two occupied cities of Ceuta and Melilla and prevent Spain from turning them into Spanish territory.
7. The Central Office is pressing officials to intervene on behalf of our workers abroad to protect them from all forms of racism and to safeguard their rights.
8. The Central Office of the Moroccan Human Rights Association is appealing to all political, trade union, social, cultural and legal organizations and to all those who care about human rights to support the association in its efforts to



achieve its goals in accordance with its laws, to defend human rights and liberties, to establish the rule of law, to protect the independence of the courts, and to put an end to all unlawful violations of the law.

Rabat, 10 December 1986

The Central Office

8592

CSO: 4504/88

STATEMENT BY DEMOCRATIC LABOUR CONFEDERATION

Rabat AL-MASAR in Arabic 9 Dec 86 p 6

[Article: "The General Statement"]

[Text] This statement is being issued in consideration of the grave political, economic, social and cultural situation that our country has been experiencing as officials persist in subverting the political game and holding on to their power of making unilateral decisions, thereby rendering pluralism and democratic organization virtually meaningless. At the same time liberties are being suspended, and a single point of view is being imposed on people by the power of administrative and repressive agencies. The economic crisis is getting worse, and that is forcing our country to become more subordinate and to pledge its national sovereignty as a result of its total compliance with the advice given to it by financial and international organizations. The poor and destitute are becoming more miserable, and the number of those who are barely making it and who are unemployed--and there are university graduates among those--is growing daily. All this is happening despite our country's material and human resources which are abundant and tremendous. If these resources were to be utilized in a fair and reasonable manner, actual steps could be taken to bring about real development in the country.

Sharp class differences continue to exist, and all the country's resources and incentives are being placed at the disposal of the fortunate classes, enabling them to increase their barren wealth and to acquire more tools by means of which they could dominate workers, keep their incomes down, and interfere with their work and with their right to receive housing, education and medical treatment. This crisis has created feelings of frustration, and it has affected the values and conduct of all oppressed groups who are held in the clutches of cultural misery, ignorance and deprivation. This being the case, the Second Congress for the Democratic Labour Confederation affirms the following:

Morocco's working class, as organized in the ranks of the Democratic Labour Confederation, has actually managed to correct the historical course of the labor union movement in Morocco. Morocco's workers have thus armed themselves with an effective tool which the movement could use in conjunction with all its energies and its will as it embarks upon the struggle for a democratic labor union to achieve liberation and an honorable life. Morocco's workers have thus opened up new horizons for enriching the experience of a democratic union and firmly establishing its roots.

Morocco's working class, as organized in the ranks of the Democratic Labour Confederation, has become a fundamental part of the movement and of the effective changes which are taking place in society. It is no longer possible to sidestep the aspirations of the working class and impose on its members choices that do not respond to their basic needs and their legitimate, material and moral rights.

These fundamental facts were on the minds and in the thoughts of conferees as they pursued their knowledgeable and responsible discussions of all the national, ethnic and international issues that were to be discussed at the conference. Because the congress feels that universal mobilization is essential to the achievement of unambiguous and necessary objectives, it is announcing the following:

First, on the National Level

1. The Second Congress reaffirms that Morocco's working class and its organization, the Democratic Labour Confederation, are strongly committed to the territorial unity of Morocco and its complete national sovereignty. The Second Congress recognizes with reverence and appreciation the great actions taken by our royal armed forces in our recaptured deserts. These actions were taken to protect the security of our desert regions and maintain their normal assimilation in the country.

2. The Second Congress calls upon the Moroccan government to deal decisively and earnestly with the question of Ceuta, Melilla and the Ja'fari Islands, which are under Spanish control. It recognizes the struggle of fellow Moroccans who reside in the occupied territory and who cling to their Moroccan nationality and their Arab-Islamic identity. We fully support their aspirations to liberate and free themselves from the yoke of colonialism.

3. Because of the critical conditions our country has been experiencing, the Second Congress for the Democratic Labour Confederation is appealing to all national and progressive forces who are anxious about the country's future and its progress and who wish to open future horizons to millions of young Moroccan citizens who have seen and are seeing the light in the age of independence. The Second Congress for the Democratic Labour Confederation is calling upon all these forces to unite their efforts in two vital areas that are important to our nation's destiny:

A. The Area of Establishing Democracy and Protecting Trade Union, Political and Social Liberties: This is to be done by taking a stand against falsifying the people's wishes and obstructing their decisions. It is to be done by working to bring about real democratic gains which would lead to the creation of councils that would actually be representative. These councils, which would be credible and responsible, would actually be legally and morally accountable to the people. On the other hand, writing a public liberties agreement is considered to be a minimum requirement, and that is being defended by all the active forces in the country.

B. The Area of Economic and Social Reform: This is to be done by devising a national rescue program that would stop the drain which is the product of the country's subordination and the poor choices that are being made. A minimal program would be devised for pursuing a national development plan, and that plan would direct all our financial resources to achieve the country's basic needs. Within that plan workers' and employees' conditions would be reviewed; the minimum wage would be raised; cost of living increases would be implemented; temporary and daily workers would be recognized officially; and social security, retirement and trade union rights would be observed. The working class would be protected from the domination of employers who violate employment laws and trade union liberties. The country's resources would also be channeled into the development of an urgent plan for employment, for young people, and for educational reform. This plan would arrest the spiral of alienation by public institutions as well as that of the wholesale and single dismissal of workers and employees and the reduction of work hours.

4. As it condemns the government's evasive style in handling the demands of the working class and its shirking of responsibility in its relationship with workers, the Second Congress of the Democratic Labour Confederation calls upon the government to uphold its commitment to conduct an actual and a real dialogue with representatives of the working class. It is asking the government to respect the workers' right to strike and to honor all labor union liberties. The congress also affirms that our trade union struggle to achieve the just demands of the working class in Morocco is essentially a democratic struggle. The congress affirms that putting an end to exploitation is an integral part of the democratic struggle in which the National Liberation Movement is involved.

5. The congress expresses its unconditional solidarity with our emigre workers in their stance against the injustice and racial discrimination to which they are being subjected. It calls upon the government to stop regarding the Moroccan working class abroad as merely a constant source of hard currency. Instead, it should regard those people as part of our nation whose departure from the country was a result of the economic policy that is being pursued. Those people have a legitimate right to return to the homeland in an honorable manner. They have a right to preserve their children's identity and affiliation with our cultural, Arab-Islamic identity.

6. The Second Congress of the Democratic Labour Confederation calls for the reinstatement of all those who were fired or suspended from their jobs. It calls for the release of all political prisoners and members of labor unions, and it calls for the return of all those who have been sent into exile.

#### Second, on the Ethnic Level

1. The congress affirms that Morocco's working class is committed to the need to build the great Arab Morocco. It calls upon all the forces of labor and democracy in all regions of the country to recapture the spirit of brotherly solidarity and the spirit of the common struggle which prevailed among our people during the stage of the struggle against colonialism. This spirit is to be utilized in the battles that are being fought today to defend the unity of our people and their right to have a democracy, to become liberated, and to enjoy social development.

2. The congress renews its support for the working class in Morocco and for the workers' absolute support for the Palestinian Revolution and its legitimate and only representative, the PLO. In voicing its conviction that it sees the unity of the Palestinian rank and the independence of the Palestinian national decision to be the primary weapon which the Palestinian Revolution can use in its battle for liberation, it calls upon all factions of the Arab Liberation Movement to protect and support the Palestinian Revolution. The congress calls upon the Arab Liberation Movement to consider the PLO the organization with the foremost responsibility of determining the strategy for the struggle to liberate the usurped land. The congress recognizes the steadfastness and the struggle of the Palestinian working class in the occupied land, and it restates its support for the struggle of the Lebanese people to regain their land which has been occupied by Zionist forces. The congress supports the restoration of Lebanon as a country that is Arab, democratic and united.

### Third, on the International Level

1. The Second Congress of the Democratic Labour Confederation affirms its absolute solidarity with all peoples who are struggling for their independence and their sovereignty. It affirms its solidarity with all liberation movements that oppose racism and imperialist aggression. The Second Congress condemns the racist regime in South Africa.

2. The Second Congress of the Democratic Labour Confederation recognizes the working class in Africa and Latin America whose desperate struggle against the consequences of economic and political subordination has reinforced every struggle which is being waged by international forces of labor to build new foundations for international relations. Such new relations would be based on respecting the national sovereignty of countries and honoring their independence from the centers of capitalist dominance with their methods of disregarding people.

8592

CSO: 4504/88



## HUNGER STRIKE AT LAALOU PRISON

Rabat AL-MASAR in Arabic 17 Dec 86 p 9

[Article: "Laalou Prison in Rabat: the Open-Ended Hunger Strike Goes into Its Third Week"]

[Text] Political prisoners at Laalou Prison are continuing their open-ended hunger strike which they started on 3 December. This is the second hunger strike that was declared in the past 3 months. The first hunger strike followed the insurrection at Laalou, which was carried out by those who are being held in prison because of their actions against the public. At that time the commander, who is the prison director, took advantage of that insurrection to retaliate against political prisoners. He falsely charged some of them with inciting the insurrection; he destroyed their belongings; and he dispersed them in the prison cells among other convicts. He also used various forms of violence against them, relying on some of the most incorrigible criminals to do the dirty work whose purpose was to terrorize political prisoners and break their will.

Political prisoners felt compelled to go on a hunger strike on 16 October to defend their dignity and regain the privileges they had earned and that the commander had taken away. Thirty-five days after they declared their hunger strike, the commander made a verbal pledge and promised the strikers to retract his tyrannical measures. He started by actually returning them to their original cells. Having won such a concession the political prisoners ended their open-ended hunger strike. But the commander proceeded to drag his feet and play games with the prisoners, and he reneged on his previous promises. The political prisoners thus felt compelled once again to go on another open-ended hunger strike, and that has been going on since 3 December. They are still suffering from the consequences of their first hunger strike. (They have heart disease, pulmonary disease, rheumatism and eye problems).

According to a recent statement issued by the political prisoners, (see the next column) an official from the Prison Administration in Rabat came to Laalou Prison on 8 December 1986 and pledged in the presence of the commander to restore all the privileges the prisoners who were on a hunger strike had earned. However, on 9 December 1986 he retracted every pledge he had made the previous day. This means that pledges made by officials are nothing more than tricks. These officials do not care about human rights or lives even when such a protest happens to coincide with the International Day for Human Rights.

On the other hand the families of some Muslim prisoners in Safi informed us that their children had been tortured collectively in an attempt to force them to break their open-ended hunger strike. They informed us that several prisoners were in the hospital in serious condition as a result of this vile operation. There is, in particular, the case of Boudiaf Mohamed who slipped into a coma after he was tortured. (We will return to the subject of torture at the Civilian Prison in Safi in a later issue).

8592

CSO: 4504/88

MOROCCO

BRIEFS

STUDENTS ARRESTED IN OUJDA--After students at the University of Mohamed the First in Oujda commemorated the day of International Solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people, residents of the university district were taken by surprise when Secret Police forces together with al-Simi and al-Makhazniyah teams stormed into the area on the 5th of January. They came in trucks and cars, equipped with surveillance gear. They fanned out into the cafeteria and in the dormitories, swinging their rods and canes. Many students were wounded as a result of that, and more than 80 male and female students were arrested. Two 2 days later all the students, except eight of them, were released. Those eight students, and there is one female in their midst, are still being held. [Excerpt] [Rabat AL-MASAR in Arabic 17 Dec 86 p 9] 8592

CSO: 4504/88



MZALI SON-IN-LAW CHARGED WITH FORMING SECRET INTELLIGENCE NETWORK

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 12 Oct 86 p 6

[Text] Dr Rifaat Daly, arrested on 24 August 1986 in possession of a firearm and assorted electronics eavesdropping equipment, has just been turned over to the examining magistrate, reliable sources report.

Heavy charges are being brought against the former prime minister's son-in-law, the most serious concerning the formation of a secret intelligence and electronics eavesdropping network, unknown to official security organizations. The network, whose branches extended to the main Tunisian cities, was entrusted with the task of gathering information on the general situation and of exercising surveillance at all levels over the actions and activities of officials in the party and the government and political personnel in general. The organization would also measure the degree of allegiance and loyalty of every individual to the former prime minister, propagate rumors and send up public opinion test balloons.

A daily summary of such reports was then transmitted to Mohamed Mzali. Daly's activities did not escape the vigilance of police, who even succeeded in surprising two members of the network and arresting them in August 1985. Mzali, then prime minister and minister of interior, ordered their outright release when informed of the results of the investigation.

However, since that time, the entire network has been shadowed by police, which have learned that the organization operated under the cover of a health projects and hospital management consulting firm (SAGED) in El Manar, with Daly as the chief executive. The latter had put together his plan as early as January 1984, at which time he began to recruit "unconditional," "trustworthy" elements. He was helped in the task by his personal secretary, one Faouzi Senoussi, arrested at the same time, who collected payoffs taken from the budget of the Unisian Karate Federation, revived by Daly himself with the blessing of Mzali and the then secretary of interior, Ameer Ghedira.

Daly also used the services of a foreign spy experienced in the techniques of electronic eavesdropping. Among other things, the latter was entrusted with the task of exercising discreet surveillance over the country's top-ranking officials and carrying out a preliminary search of places to be visited by the former prime minister. Daly also set up contacts with intelligence agents operating abroad, also for the purpose of obtaining the most confidential reports on Tunisian politicians and the social climate in Tunisia.

Also an active influence peddler, Daly was conspicuous because of his active involvement of a number of high government officials in such affairs, not hesitating to promote his friends, acquaintances and members of his network for high posts.

Even the domain of health was not free of interference. Daly succeeded in forming a "medical commission" that met every Monday at the headquarters of the SAGED (known by the code name of "El Abassia" (for a documented report on the sector.

Outside of these suspicious political activities, Daly used his position for personal ends. For example, he arranged bank aid for SAGED on the order of 220,000 dinars. Named chairman of the board of the company, he obtained the sum of 20,000 dinars as miscellaneous bonuses while receiving a monthly salary of 1,500 dinars. Some 20,000 more dinars taken from company funds, were given to persons outside SAGED and recorded as remuneration of personnel.

Daly also appropriated and turned over to his brother half of the shares of a real estate enterprise whose owner, in financial difficulty, had obtained through Daly's intervention a bank credit of 429,000 dinars without adequate guarantees.

11,464

CSO: 4519/30

DESTOURIAN SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL INTERVIEWED

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 3 Nov 86 pp 8-10

[Interview with Rachid Sfar, secretary general of the Destourian Socialist Party (PSD); date and place not given]

[Text] The seventh legislative elections and the election campaign preceding them were another opportunity for the PSD to sustain the national debate on current problems and the country's fate. Loyal to a tradition which the Commander in Chief has succeeded in instituting since the very birth of the Neo Destourian Party, both officials and members of the PSD have therefore succeeded, thanks to a dialogue with all Tunisians, in better informing them and making them more aware and consequently, gaining their support for the program of the PSD. It is a clearly defined and reasonable program that is realistic and that places its stake on the determination of all Tunisians.

Through the four questions put to him by DIALOGUE, Rachid Sfar, secretary general of the Destourian Socialist Party, analyzes the scope of this process the country has just experienced and reminds all the nation's live forces of their duty to make a commitment to the prosperity and invulnerability of Tunisia.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, since Monday, 20 October, Tunisia has just gone through a period essentially dominated by the election campaign. In addition to its effect on the outcome of the election, the campaign waged by PSD candidates is also an ideal opportunity to make citizens aware and consult them about development, especially as we move toward the Seventh Five-Year Plan. What can you tell us on this matter?

[Answer] Indeed, this election campaign took place on two levels. It was first of all a real election campaign, aimed at electing deputies. Consequently, there was a debate concentrating on our election platform, which is itself the expression of our fundamental choices as we defined them at our official assemblies, as in the case of the latest PSD congress. Voters are therefore informed and made aware of our policies, our program and our prospects.

In addition, the campaign is also an opportunity to engage in a national debate on current problems. President Bourguiba and the PSD have always supported and practiced dialogue, which enables the masses to express themselves and leaders

to explain their position. Those who might think that the campaign is useless are mistaken because national debate is grass-roots democracy, the necessary condition for broadening democracy through the participation of the people.

This campaign enables us to strengthen the domestic front and achieve a national consensus on our recovery plan.

For the Destourian Socialist Party, which is the party of Bourguiba and all Tunisians, these elections will be an opportunity to explain this program of mobilizing the grass roots so that Tunisians will support the economic recovery program.

The election campaign was a new opportunity to show how attached citizens in all regions are attached to their president and to the PSD, especially after the recovery action instituted by the chief of state in all fields and his historic decision to devote the rest of his life to fighting corruption.

The Destourian Socialist Party remains the strongest party on the Tunisian political scene. Historical legitimacy, the influence of the president and his great ability to adapt and to make changes mean that no political faction in Tunisia can compete with him, which perhaps explains the defection of some opposition parties.

[Question] Some say that these seventh legislative elections are lacking in interest due to the absence of anything at stake, as perceived by systems that give priority to competition between persons and interests on such occasions. What do you think?

[Answer] We would have wished for the elections to take place under better conditions. We have stated clearly and solemnly that we would see that the election campaign, the voting and counting take place in accordance with our election code.

Unfortunately, some opposition parties preferred to boycott the elections or withdraw from competition, giving excuses that do not stand up. These parties take complete responsibility for their actions vis-a-vis the country. Furthermore, the opposition has not defined its position on the economic recovery program presented by the government on 19 August 1986, when patriotism and intellectual honesty demand that all political factions take a position on the program. It is not an ideological choice, but rather, a set of measures and structural adjustments that are indispensable and unavoidable, whatever the political choices.

But despite the defection of certain opposition parties in these elections, the stakes are still intense for Tunisia because the real problems facing the country are the issue.

Tunisia is facing economic and social difficulties that the government, loyal to the real Bourguibian tradition, has clearly explained to the people. It has also defined actions to be taken in order to restore the balance of the

economy and emphasized the sacrifices that the national community must make during a period of transition in order to restore our economy's strength.

[Question] During this campaign, debate has centered on national as well as regional and local problems. Does this mean that the PSD has done its work of identifying the problems and that it has mastered all the issues? Is this impression well-founded?

[Answer] For 3 months, we have diagnosed the economic and social problems from which the country is suffering. We have identified the main problems and the main gaps. In terms of this and based on our legitimate ambitions for progress and well-being, we have drafted a recovery plan covering all sectors and tending to restore the balance and revive production. The plan is both reasonable and determined, reasonable because it is realistic and sticks to concrete possibilities; determined because it places its stake on the determination of Tunisians to emerge from the crisis and be on a par with their ambitions.

To apply the plan and particularly, to mobilize the foreign financial means needed, we have received the backing of international monetary and financial institutions. We are therefore beginning to bring together the conditions for the success of our plan. We have the deep conviction that what we have proposed to the country is in keeping with our general interest properly understood.

[Question] There are those who claim that in its present approach, Tunisia risks turning its back on its civilizational and historic accomplishments, especially the gran work of rehabilitating its Arab-Muslim authenticity in the Bourguibian era.

[Answer] On what can they base such a claim? Nothing in our actions or words backs such an accusation. Our past, our work and the prospects we outline for the future bear witness to what we are and what we want to be. We are an Arab-Muslim people open to modernness. Any claim to the contrary can only be for the purpose of doing harm.

Since independence, wide-ranging action has been undertaken under the direct guidance of President Bourguiba to strengthen the essential elements of our identity, to wit: Islam, the Arabic language and our Arab nature. We are undertaking this in a modernistic perspective, meaning that we are trying to see that our identity, by adapting to the modern world, will no longer be handicapped, but rather, will be strengthened and will exist by itself. The result of Bourguiba's work is there to see. Young Tunisians practice Islam, masters the Arabic language and has a good grounding in his Arab geographic space. That does not prevent young Tunisians from assimilating modern disciplines and ideas and from being open to the outside world. We are convinced that any outdated or conservative approach can only hinder the liberation of the identity and the mastery of our destiny. We must therefore beware of disinformation whose goal is to create doubts in ourselves and in our approach and that seeks only to destabilize us. Tunisians are sufficiently sure of themselves to foil such maneuvers.

## BOURGUIBA, JR. VISITS JAPAN

Tunis LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE in French 18 Nov 86 pp 1, 5

[Excerpts] Mr Habib Bourguiba, Jr., member of the PSD [Destourian Socialist Party] Political Bureau and chief executive officer of the BDET [Tunisian Economic Development Bank], who is presently in Japan on special mission, was received yesterday by the Japanese prime minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone.

President Bourguiba's special envoy conveyed to Mr Nakasone the greetings of the head of state and delivered to the Japanese prime minister a message from his counterpart, Mr Rachid Sfar.

### Meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr Habib Bourguiba, Jr. was also received by the Japanese minister of foreign affairs, Mr Tadashi Kuranari, in the presence of Messrs Tahar Sioud, deputy governor of the Central Bank of Tunisia, and Chekib Nouira.

The meeting took place in a friendly atmosphere. Mr Kuranari recalled the visit he had made to Tunisia in 1981 together with a group of Japanese members of Parliament.

He emphasized the importance accorded by his Government to Tunisia as a balance wheel and influential center of progress.

Following this meeting, the top officials of Nomura Securities, Japan's largest bank and one of the world's most important, held a luncheon in honor of Mr Bourguiba, Jr. and the delegation that is accompanying him.

During this luncheon, an exchange of information and views took place. The Japanese bankers expressed their high esteem of Tunisia's economic policy and of the results already obtained by our country.

### Talks With Bank of Tokyo

In the afternoon, a meeting was held between the members of the Tunisian delegation, headed by Mr Sioud, and the top officials of the Bank of Tokyo, on relations between that bank and Tunisian banks.



Last year, for the first time, it will be recalled, the BDET contracted loans from a group of Japanese banks led by Nomura Securities and the Bank of Tokyo.

Mr Bourguiba, Jr. arrived in Japan on Saturday 15 November, accompanied by a delegation consisting of Messrs Tahar Sioud, Chekib Nour, Abdelhamid Ben Messaouda, deputy director of the Ministry of foreign affairs, and Abdekmaïd Ben Frej of the Central Bank of Tunisia. He was welcomed at the airport by representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and by the Tunisian ambassador.

9399

CSO: 4519/39

## STATISTICS ON CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 17 Nov 86 p 30

[Article by MBM: "Chemical Industries: Disposal Difficulties"]

[Text] The chemical industries sector, which experienced a remarkable surge during the 1970's and early 1980's, is currently facing a disposal problem on the foreign market, especially since, among other things, it is counting heavily on a rise in fertilizer exports.

The projected growth rate of 17.9 percent for 1986 (versus 6.3 percent in 1985) on which the 1986 Economic Budget for the chemical industries sector was based, will fall short of that level. The origin of this negative turn is to be found in the flooding of the international market by American products, which has translated into an oversupply relative to demand and, as a direct consequence, a slump in the level of prices. To this we must add the lack of coordination among the Maghrebian, Arabic and Third World exporting countries, which are normally the ones hardest hit by deterioration of the world market for fertilizers.

Our country nevertheless managed to meet this difficult situation courageously and even to chalk up some substantive gains, as is evident from the results of the first half of the current year. In terms of production, the results of the first 6 months of 1986 showed a notable rise over the same period of the previous year (+48 percent) for ammonium nitrate, a product that was formerly entirely imported. Gains were also made in the production of triple superphosphates (+39 percent) and sodium polyphosphate (+32 percent), as well as phosphoric acid and diammonium phosphate (16.5 percent and 15.6 percent respectively) over the same period of time. Production of the other products, on the other hand, has dropped by as much as 59 percent, with monoammonium phosphate down 44 percent, triple superphosphate down 39 percent, dicalcium phosphate down 12 percent, and granulated phosphate down to a lesser degree (-3 percent).

Concerning exports, the results of the first 6 months of 1986 show divergent variations depending on the product. For phosphoric acid, which ranks among this sector's principal products, exports rose 31 percent in terms of quantity; in terms of value, however, they rose just barely over the level



attained during the first half of 1985; that is, up 0.7 percent. Sodium [tri]polyphosphate (STPP) exports also rose, both in quantity and value. The sector's other products did not fare as well: Under the effects of competition on foreign markets, 46% triple superphosphate exports dropped approximately 4 percent in volume and 16.4 percent in value. Diammonium phosphate export revenues dropped 1 percent during the period under consideration, despite a greater exported volume (+24.6 percent). This evolution stemmed from remaining balances under 1985 contracts, carried forward and filled during the current year at the low prices of the last half of the previous year. Monoammonium phosphate (MAP), dicalcium phosphate (DCP) and granulated phosphate (G27) also underwent a downturn in exported quantities and value, this evolution being explained by the slump in demand and the softness of prices. It must be added that, during the first half of 1986, overall export revenues for chemical products totaled only 116.1 million dinars, down 3.6 percent with respect to the same period in 1985. As to the prospects for the second half of 1986, very little change can be expected in view of the persistence of the problems of disposal and deterioration of prices.

9399

CSO: 4519/39

## GOALS OF ENERGY AGENCY

Tunis DIALOGUE in French 10 Nov 86 pp 33, 34

[Interview with Moncef Ben Abdallah, chief executive officer of the Energy Regulatory Agency: "'Our Objective: Link Energy Regulation to Emergence of a National Technology'", by Othman Gharbi; place and date not given]

[Text] The 8th Plan will probably be that of the post-oil era, inasmuch as hydrocarbon deposits have to come to an end. And, barring a "geological surprise"--one that is hardly probable at this juncture--Tunisia will have to begin importing energy, on a supplementary or transitional basis, from countries which, themselves, will have to face exhaustion of their reserves, although, true, somewhat farther away in time.

The final decade of the century will be characterized in Tunisia by the greater use of other, renewable, sources of energy. These will include the sun, the wind, biomass, and perhaps nuclear power. The use of solar collectors, photovoltaic cells, wind-driven generators and digesters, among other devices, will then be commonplace.

Without energy there can be no development. Energy has thus become a highly prized staple that must be safeguarded, especially against wasteful use.

For a little over a year now, a new agency has specialized in the study and addressing of this vital question for the country, on a practical level..

Mr Moncef Ben Abdallah, chief executive officer of the AME [Energy Regulatory Agency], has been kind enough to respond to questions by DIALOGUE.

[Question] What have been the Agency's initial actions?

[Answer] The Energy Regulatory Agency was created by a decree-law of 14 September 1985. It became operational in January 1986. Since then we have cleared the terrain in the domain of economic studies relative to energy and defined the programs to be subsidized by the Agency from the standpoint of energy consumption.

We are now better able to delimit energy consumption structures by sector, by product, and to anticipate the rates of this consumption as a function of economic growth.

This obviously enables us to plan in advance for the trends of this consumption in forthcoming years.

[Question] The use of energy being an engine of growth, can one be throttled down without slowing the other?

[Answer] It was found that the growth rate of energy consumption was exceeding the economic growth rate (that of the GDP [gross domestic product]). That is to say that, for a given level of production more energy than necessary was being consumed. Between 1970 and 1980 energy consumption grew at the rate of 11 percent per annum! This clearly provided an open field of action calling for control of the excess energy being used. Over-utilization, more often than not, is thoughtless--that is, a lack of awareness that things could be different if less energy were used.

It must be said that certain habits have persisted (those stemming from an abundance of cheap energy), but it must also be recognized that some technological choices were made at the industrial level at a time when there was a plethora of energy; that is, when industrial equipment itself was designed from an "energy-guzzling" viewpoint.

There is no question that the energy consumption growth rate can be decoupled from that of economic growth without adversely affecting the latter. The case of France and of the OECD countries is eloquent proof of this. By putting in place, in 1973, a very effectively regulated energy conservation program, France has succeeded in separating the evolution of the energy consumption curve from that of the economy, whereas prior to that they were closely coupled. Presently, the energy curve is headed downward, while economic growth continues to rise.

[Question] How is our national energy conservation program structured?

[Answer] This program has three essential components: Juridical, financial and educational.

As regards its juridical and regulatory aspects, I might cite the instituting of a compulsory and periodic energy audit; that is, an audit of all the major consumers of energy, which includes a study of their consumption, and identifying wastage and possibilities of conserving energy.

Based on a well-defined threshold of energy consumption, this audit will include industries and the transportation, residential and tertiary sectors.

The monitoring of consumption and carrying out of energy audits are responsibilities of the AME.

These compulsory and periodic audits are intended to lead to the signing of program-contracts with the users, designed to ensure the tracking and conservation of energy.

These program-contracts state the objectives and the human and financial means needed to achieve the energy savings that have been agreed to jointly.

These contracts also stipulate the funds to be provided as grants in aid to encourage the taking of the energy-saving actions called for by the legislation.

Besides, it should also be mentioned that, from now on, all new projects involving major consumption of energy must have the prior approval of the Agency.

Formerly, such prior energy-regulatory approval was not required. The only requirement was prior approval of the investment itself.

#### Financial Incentives

The second component of the program consists of incentive measures: Financial aids and tax benefits.

Direct financial aid involves grants for:

- Prior studies of energy-saving investments, with a ceiling of 20,000 dinars;

- Testing of high-performance energy-saving processes;

- Testing of programs in the domain of renewable-source energy;

- Carrying out of audits;

- Training of technicians and user-awareness programs.

Tax benefits include:

- Suspension of customs duties and taxes on revenues perceived by way of equipment necessary for the energy-saving program;

- Amortization of investments at the annual rate of 25 percent; that is, in 4 years, whereas normally the term is longer (at least 10 years);

- Financing by means of credits granted at preferential interest rates.

The third component of the national energy regulatory program concerns user-awareness and training.

This calls for the waging, by the AME, of general-awareness campaigns, aimed initially at the public-at-large, as well as campaigns more specific to the different sectors (industries, transportation, hotels, government administrations, etc.).

There will even be an energy-conservation-awareness drive at the level of the schools and lycees.

Our first campaign will start around mid-November.

As regards training, strictly speaking, it will involve users, designstudy experts, the university and scientific research centers.

Taken together, these three components comprise our national energy regulatory program.

[Question] How does the Agency intervene in the domain of renewable energies?

[Answer] At the base, there is the law of 25 April 1985 on renewable energies.

This law encourages and organizes the research, production and commercialization of renewable energies.

The law defines renewable energies as "all forms of electrical, mechanical, or heat energy obtained through the transformation of solar, wind, biomass, or any other renewable natural source."

#### Advance Testing

In this domain, the Agency is responsible for coordinating the national programs in respect to new and renewable energies.

The conceptual, tracking and evolutionary work on renewable energies will henceforth be administered by the AME.

The Agency will draw up a year-by-year list of project work relating to new and renewable energies. It will provide the partial or total funding of these projects and will select the best operators for the carrying out of these projects.

It is important to point out that the Agency's approach will be that of advance testing of the different technologies, which are evolving at a very rapid rate, before launching into their application on a large scale. Our objective is to link regulation to the emergence of a national technology.

There are new technological choices to be made and the possibilities of domestic development of the type of material chosen to be considered, from

a dual viewpoint: Usability suited to the environment, and possibilities of industrialization in terms of manufacture by a Tunisian industrial sector (the solar collectors are Tunisian).

As regards conceptual work, the Agency, working together with the National Scientific and Technological Research Institute, the engineering schools and the University in a general way, is planning to broaden the scope of applied research in this domain.

9399

CSO: 4519/39

SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPE INSTALLED IN MONASTIR

Tunis LE TEMPS in French 19 Nov 86 p 2

[Text] Monastir (TAP)--Tunisian-Japanese cooperation in the domain of technology transfers and in the training of cadres materialized yesterday in the inauguration, at the Faculty of Technical Sciences at Monastir, of a scanning electron microscope donated to Tunisia by Japan.

Professor Amor Chadli, minister of education, training and scientific research, did the honors of the inauguration of this advanced electronic instrument, the first of its kind in Tunisia, in the company of the Japanese ambassador in Tunisia, Mr Yoshikazu Sugitani, and in the presence of the governor of Monastir, Mr Mohamed Ben Nasr; the secretary general of the Coordinating Committee, Mr Abdallah Bchir; and the rector of the University of the Center, Mr Habib Achour.

This scanning electron microscope is used in mechanical engineering, histology, biology, in textile and cement industries, in oil exploration, chemical analysis, and many other scientific domains.

In a speech delivered for the occasion, Prof Chadli pointed out the importance of this new state-of-the-art technical acquisition, which lends itself to new methods of training, research and production, and enables the pursuit of scientific and industrial advances.

The minister stated that this instrument represents a priceless acquisition for the University of the Center and an element that enlarges one's field of technical endeavor and enhances scientific progress, thus responding to the call of our Supreme Fighter, who is desirous of promoting our scientific and technical expertise.

The minister expressed his confidence in the competence of the Tunisian cadres and in their ability to make the most of the use of this microscope.

9399

CSO: 4519/39



## BRIEFS

SOVIET MILITARY DELEGATION IN BIZERTE--Bizerte (T.A.P.)--Yesterday morning, at the seat of the governorate, Mr Salem Mansouri, governor of Bizerte, received a Soviet military delegation led by Admiral Zeitzev, assistant chief of staff of the Soviet Navy. The governor outlined for his guests the development the region is undergoing in the different domains, emphasizing the exemplary cooperation that exists between Tunisia and the Soviet Union. At the conclusion of this meeting, the Soviet delegation visited the Mausoleum of the Martyrs at Bizerte and the headquarters of the mechanical and naval construction company SOCOMENA at Menzel Bourguiba. During the latter visit, the delegation discussed with the chief executive officer of the company, Mr Moncef Idriss, the possibilities of cooperation between the Tunisian naval enterprise and the Soviet Navy with regard to the building and repair of ships. [Text] [Tunis LE TEMPS in French 14 Nov 86 p 4] 9399

CSO: 4519/39



## SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD ON WAR, ARMS DEAL

JN131652 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA)--Dr Viktor Minin, Soviet ambassador in Baghdad, has called for finding a solution to the Iraq-Iran war on the basis of respecting the sovereignty and independence of each country, noninterference in internal affairs, and the right to choose any style of life and the right to self-determination. At a press conference held here today, the Soviet ambassador said the USSR believes in the need to stop the war and resolve the Iraqi-Iranian dispute through negotiation following international laws and principles. He also affirmed his country's readiness to seriously and effectively contribute to this effort and to support constructive efforts to stop the war and resolve the dispute.

The Soviet ambassador described the rejection of any efforts to achieve peace between Iraq and Iran as a meaningless step which cannot be understood. The Soviet ambassador touched on the Iranian regime's stand toward peace efforts and initiatives. He said that the Iranian Government's stand is known and cannot be hidden. He added: Suffice it to compare between the frank and clear Iraqi stand on peace calls, the last of which being the Soviet statement, and the Iranian stand to accurately understand the issue.

Dr Viktor Minin also dealt with the arms deal involving the Iranian regime, the Zionist entity, and the United States. He said: This cooperation constitutes a danger to security and peace in general and to all regional peoples. During his press conference, the Soviet ambassador also talked about the leak of Soviet arms to the Iranian regime through some regimes. He said when his country gives arms to a country it does so to reinforce that country's self-defense and not for any other purpose.

The Soviet ambassador in Baghdad also praised Iraqi-Soviet relations. He said these relations are developing continuously and successfully on all levels and stem from the spirit of the bilateral friendship and cooperation agreement.

/8309

CSO: 4400/113

CPCZ DELEGATION HOLDS TALKS WITH BA'TH OFFICIAL

JN142213 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA)--Party talks between an Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation and a Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] delegation, which is visiting Iraq now, have begun. During the talks, headed on the Iraqi side by Taha Yasin al-Basri, head of the Foreign Relations Office of the National Command, and by Karel Erbes, member of the CPCZ Central Committee, on Czechoslovak side, relations of cooperation between the two parties and ways to develop them were reviewed.

Al-Basri reviewed developments in the Iranian aggression against Iraq and the Iraqi Armed Forces' preparedness to repulse and destroy the aggressive Iranian forces. He also explained the Iraqi stand calling for an end to the war through peaceful means and its positive response to various international initiatives. He also noted the scandal of the U.S.-Zionist-Iranian arms deal aimed at prolonging the war.

Erbes expressed his pleasure with the development in the relations between the two parties and countries in the interest of the two friendly peoples. He also expressed his country's support for Iraqi efforts aimed at ending the war and defending its independence and territory against aggression.

/8309

CSO: 4400/113

JERUSALEM ARABIC ON HUSAYN LE MONDE INTERVIEW

JN141711 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 14 Jan 87

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] During his visit to Paris this week and in an interview with LE MONDE, King Husayn said: I strongly believe there is an opportunity for achieving peace. The Jordanian king added: This opportunity is the result of the predominant feeling that if nothing is realized soon we will find ourselves in a difficult psychological position where we would feel everything is lost. The entire region will slip into a bottomless abyss and disturbances will begin which would be difficult to contain.

King Husayn's remarks contain an optimistic note concerning a ripe opportunity to realize peace in the Middle East. His remarks also contain a pessimistic warning of the consequences of losing this opportunity. He also urges swift action to exploit this opportunity. No doubt, King Husayn's remarks are positive, reflecting a desire to realize peace. They are commensurate with his repeated assertions over the years that he wants peace and that he is ready to exert his utmost to this end. He even went so far as to assert that he was prepared to do the impossible to realize peace.

While King Husayn was asserting to LE MONDE this week that there is an opportunity to realize peace, it can be easily noted that throughout the decades of the Arab-Israeli dispute and even before the beginning of the dispute there have always been opportunities for peace. However, the tragedy is that the history of peace efforts is replete with lost opportunities. As Egypt and Israel proved, peace is not impossible to achieve. Peace does not require miracles, but wisdom, political courage, and decisiveness by all parties concerned. One would not be paltering with the truth if one says this decisiveness has always been required from King Husayn because of his special, decisive role in any realistic solution of the Palestinian problem.

If King Husayn feels swift action should be taken so as not to lose the current opportunity for peace, why does he continue to refrain from walking the shortest and most noble path of peace, namely, the path of direct negotiations? Why does he insist on putting his cart either behind the 'Arafat horse or behind

that of Al-asad's Syria? In the same breath, King Husayn also wants to tie the chariot of peace to an international conference to be attended by all permanent members of the UN Security Council and all the states and parties involved in the Arab-Israeli dispute, including 'Arafat's organization, which he himself said last February was not qualified or able to take part in peacemaking because it was a group of organizations owing contradictory allegiances to various Arab and non-Arab regimes.

There can be no doubt that tying the cart of peace to an international conference, to a [word indistinct] Arab summit resolution, or to the approval of this or that Arab ruler or leader is just like tying this cart to a great number of horses, some of them pulling forward, some backward, and some pulling to the left or the right.

Finally, it may be a good idea to remind King Husayn of what one of his newspapers said in late June. In an editorial AL-RA'Y said the peace process is no longer subject to the will of the superpowers alone and that all those who want peace and stability in this region believe peacemaking does not require anyone's permission.

This is what the Jordanian paper AL-RA'Y said. Whether King Husayn reaches the conclusion that peacemaking does not require anyone's permission and whether he will act accordingly or not, the fact remains that comprehensive peace is still awaiting an Arab leader or leaders of the caliber of the late Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat, leaders who are wise and politically courageous, and leaders who have confidence in themselves and who know they do not have to take or beg permission from anyone to have effective, sincere participation in making peace, which is cherished by all peoples in the region.

/8309

CSO: 4400/113

# JUNBLATT PREDICTS CIVIL WAR TO LAST UNTIL 1995

Beirut AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 20 Dec 86 pp 22, 23

[Article by Salim Nassar: "Future Predictions: Will Junblatt's Theory Turn Out To Be True, and Will the War in Lebanon Last until 1995?"]

[Text] Mr Walid Junblatt has described the war in Lebanon as a modern version of the civil war which lasted from 1840 to 1860, and he estimated that this war would last until 1995. That is why he asked members of his party and his supporters not to give in to despair even as he affirmed that the ferocity of the past 11 years would not be diminished during the next 9 lean years. In articulating this comparison Mr Junblatt was referring to foreign interventions by France, Britain, Russia and Austria to reduce the Turkish role in Lebanon by using sectarianism to achieve conflicting policies. Innocent people lost their lives and their property because of these policies. In this century the same game is being played by international and regional powers who are taking advantage of Lebanon's domestic conditions to pull off their plans. As a result people have been forced to flee the country; national unity has been destroyed; and massacres as well as forbidden acts have been committed.

Mr Junblatt's analysis agrees with that of some historians who explain that what is happening now is a replay of a historical cycle which may not be bypassed. They judge the circumstances of the present by what has been gleaned and understood from the past, as though the ebb and flow of the tide in a popular movement were responsible for making war and peace. The philosopher George Santayana had referred succinctly to this theory in a well-known statement in which he said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." That does not mean, however, that history would repeat itself in the same sense that a chemical experiment might be repeated. Instead, it means that those who have not experienced disasters will find it difficult to avoid catastrophes.

It is obvious from Walid Junblatt's warning that the interaction between local events will continue to be subject to foreign interventions. In other words, Mr Junblatt laid out the model of the civil war, which took place during the past century, to prove that Lebanon is facing mounting pressure to change the direction of its historical and national course. But since international detente has been put on hold until President Reagan's term in office expires, the war may become the alternative to inept solutions, particularly since the history of battles in Lebanon has been linked to U.S. solutions that were bungled or to



stages during which preparations were made for a new chapter to the solution. All international and regional players have been drawn to Lebanon because the special characteristics of all parties, tendencies and religions can be found there. And since the aim of the U.S. settlement is to divide the solution and to keep the interests of the parties concerned separated from each other, Lebanon has continued to represent the only place where all tendencies can come together. This is what explains Abu 'Ammar's return to south Lebanon and Beirut, and it also explains Iran's mediation there. It were as though all the complications of the Arab-Israeli conflict and of developments in the Gulf War have been reflected on the crisis in Lebanon, forcing it to become involved in the region's condition and difficult conflicts.

Many of Lebanon's leaders share Walid Junblatt's historical theory, but they doubt the possible recurrence of the factors which permitted the return of security conditions to Mount Lebanon, as was the case after the 1860 massacres. Despite the tragedies that were brought about by the forced migration and mistreatment of the residents of Dayr al-Qamar and Zahle, Christians returned to al-Shuf, 'Alayh and al-Biq'a' to confirm the established principle of bilateral participation and to present two leaders from Mount Lebanon to legitimize that agreement. Those two leaders were Bisharah al-Khuri and Camille Sham'un. This means that the pendulum of the love-hate relationship will continue to swing back and forth between these two extremes, determining the destinies of these two sects without decreeing a final divorce between them. What is to be feared in this regard are not pressures coming from abroad, but rather a gradual breakdown from within.

It has been observed since the Sykes-Picot Agreement that political practices and international interests have not permitted change in the borders of the countries of the region. Israel may be the only exception to that: the changes in its borders were imposed by a joint Soviet-American-European resolution that has no precedent in contemporary history. Then the civil war in Cyprus affirmed that internal rearrangements in a country were permissible, as is the case under British laws that govern construction. These laws permit changes inside a building provided its outside boundaries are preserved. This means that international conspiracies cannot destroy Lebanon if they are not aided and abetted by local wishes. That essentially requires that dialogue between all allies be strengthened and that the reconciliation be reinforced on the basis of national unity and political independence.

With Abu 'Ammar's return to south Lebanon and Beirut talks about a system of cantons were revived because the Palestinian canton in Lebanon represented the first illegal violation of the Lebanese entity. That canton's relationship to its environment was one of independence in matters that had to do with security and politics, and for that reason officials called it "a state within a state." In another description 'Arafat considered Tall al-Za'tar to be an impregnable stronghold and a unique model; it had its own laws, guards, weapons, budget and walled boundaries. When negotiators drafted the Cairo Agreement, it was the refugee camps which became the model of the daily threat posed to the state's sovereignty. These camps are also a growing presence in Lebanon. The country's highly sensitive sectarian balance was upset when destructive events [in the camps] came to light, and those events led to the breakup of Lebanon's unity.

In this regard Abu Iyad refuses to acknowledge that the return to Lebanon to lay the foundations for internal Palestinian unity is a response to settlement plans. He says that the only provocation represented by Palestinians in Lebanon must be directed against Israel alone. That is why he thought that the mobilization which took place in the camps was nothing more than a reaction to the fear of elimination. Regardless of the reasons, the chaotic climate which has settled over Beirut justifies opening up Lebanon to Palestinians from the south and from Beirut.

Europeans dealt with the events that took place in the camps as though they were the starting point of a plan which could lead to a system of cantons. Professor Pierre (Moujain), a former professor of law at Paris University, said that the plan to establish a Shi'ite state in south Lebanon and West Beirut was now ready. He said that demographic changes brought about by violence and violations will vindicate the tendency in some factions to close ranks and undermine tendencies that favor coexistence. Dr Salim al-Huss, however, does not see Abu 'Ammar's return to Lebanon in terms of the Lebanese crisis, but rather in terms of the Middle East crisis. He thinks that the confrontation with Amal will cause a resumption of the fighting and will thrust the Liberation Organization once again into the formulas that are being proposed for a settlement.

At the same time Israel thinks that the operation it carried out 4 years ago failed to eliminate the danger to Upper Galilee. This means that Israel finds itself in a situation in which it has to choose between one of two alternatives: it will either have to carry out the UN request to withdraw its troops to the international borders and turn over the area to the forces of Antoine Lahad, or it will have to take the consequences of refusing that request and assume all the military responsibilities entailed by such a refusal. It is known that Israel's coalition government, which has been in power since 1984, did announce its commitment to a policy of withdrawing from the quagmire of Lebanese disputes after it had kept its army in a state of alert behind the forces of Antoine Lahad. Today, however, the Israeli government is facing a different situation after the PLO's return to south Lebanon. Israel is expecting resistance activities against it to intensify if the war in the camps should subside because Abu 'Ammar wants to control the implications of the strategy for security in the south, which is considered an international bargaining chip. Abu 'Ammar can use south Lebanon to embarrass his adversaries in the Arab world and in Lebanon. On the other hand, he also wants to bring together Palestinian factions that feel bereft and that wish to form alliances with other factions against danger.

Yitzhaq Rabin, Israel's minister of defense, expressed his concern over developments in Tyre, Sidon and Maghdushah. He promised he would keep his troops where they are until a political power should emerge in the south that could be relied upon to guarantee the security of the Galilee. Mr Rabin criticized the UN peace-keeping force, and he wondered how members of that force would protect Israel's borders when they had failed to defend themselves. But UN Secretary General de Cuellar found that justification to be a feeble excuse for refusing to withdraw. He declared that Israel's position had encouraged the conditions under which violations had been committed and UN forces attacked.

It seems that this fragile situation has started slipping into a direction opposite to that of the security program which is being proposed by the Amal



Organization. The volatile south is also becoming apprehensive about Israeli intervention, should the Resistance actively revive combat conditions throughout the south, thereby allowing the resumption of confrontation, that is, confrontation with Syria in the context of assumptions which were recently set forth by Israeli leaders when they said that a war in 1987 would be inevitable in case the deterrent plan should fail. This is the plan that was announced 2 weeks ago by Yitzhaq Shamir, Israel's prime minister, who, in making the announcement, described the plan as a two-pronged plan:

--It would have the effect of political deterrence with the aim of isolating Syria in the Arab and international communities and strangling it economically so that it would freeze the Strategic Balance Plan.

--The plan would also have the effect of military deterrence through which Israel would place itself in the position of being free and unrestricted in a decision to launch a swift and sudden attack. Shamir's government thinks that the success of that plan depends upon the region's rules for parity and equality which may be shaken by undermining the tendency for unity in Lebanon and bringing back combat conditions on the various fronts for the purpose of upsetting Syria's role in Lebanon and preventing it from signing an agreement guaranteeing formulas for a settlement and for national unity. Furthermore, the protraction of the Iraq-Iran war ensures, on the one hand, that military elements on the eastern front will remain incomplete, and that would provide an additional implication to those of Israel's strategy.

A review of future prospects for Lebanon's crisis leads one to conclude that there are no signs that there will be a comprehensive solution. Chief among the reasons for the absence of such a solution is the arms deal to Iran and the paralyzing effect that operation has had on the White House. Such a development will inevitably abort plans for international detente and bring initiatives for cooperation between Moscow and Washington to a standstill. When international detente is delayed, the regional situation and all the crises in that region, including the Middle East question and the Gulf War, are affected. This means that every time some international issue is brought to a standstill, there will be more complications, more paralysis and a greater sense of loss in the region. It is natural for those who are interested in Lebanon to concentrate their efforts on bringing about some kind of agreement which would guarantee a settlement, if not a final resolution of the problem. Such a reconciliation has been described by Minister al-Huss as one that would "sever the connections between the various battles." It would deal with the infighting in a manner that would enable the state to prevent anyone from benefiting from the protraction of the war. Recent events have shown that none of the forces taking part in the war can come up with a solution, which, in that context, could prevent the war in the camps and provide the positive conditions for bringing the dispute to a standstill. That would be an advanced stage in the process of national reconciliation, and it might turn into a model for the challenges which Lebanon will face in future years.

MONDAY MORNING INTERVIEW WITH FADLALLAH

Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 29 Dec 86-4 Jan 87 pp 16-18

[Interview with Sayyed Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah by Nadim Abou Ghannam]

[Text]

The war of the camps seems to be destined to continue for a long time, according to prominent Islamic leader, Sayyed Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, who pointed out to *Monday Morning* that the region is currently going through a stage which is evidently paving the way for a number of developments linked to American and Soviet foreign policies.

Fadlallah, who is widely regarded as the spiritual mentor of Hezbollah, said that the settlement of the Palestinians in Lebanon, could be a scheme devised in international circles, but its actual implementation requires extensive advanced publicity, to lay the groundwork for implementation.

He pointed out that the Islamic confessional situation in Lebanon has developed to the point where the war of the camps can no longer spark a sectarian conflict. However, he believes that the Iranian initiative has succeeded in releasing the confessional «steam» generated by the war.

Fadlallah said that the case of Jezzine widely differed from that of Maghdousheh, in the sense that Maghdousheh is still a strategic pawn in the camp war. He declared that Israel's aim is to transform Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate, on the political and economic levels, through the weakening of all forces.

Fadlallah did not expect a Syrian - Lebanese summit in the near future, because he believes there are problems on the political level in Lebanese - Syrian relations and in Arab relations. He believes that under present conditions, it will take a long time to settle differences on the Arab level.

He reiterated his view that the Lebanese situation is part of an international equation, not merely a regional one. Lebanon's unity stems from the international need for a foothold in the Arab world. This makes Lebanon an adequate context for international intelligence services on a wide level.

Referring to the enlarged Islamic meeting in Damascus, Fadlallah said that this meeting involves a number of political complications that are interlinked with local and regional complications. Such a meeting, if held, would provide an adequate forum for the settling of differences.

Fadlallah, who has adopted a critical attitude toward the United Nations role said the UNIFIL should protect the Southerners from Israeli aggressions. Instead of protecting Israel from Lebanese fighters.

Following is the translation of the interview conducted in Arabic :

**Why haven't all the mediation efforts to end the war of the camps had any result, and who is responsible for their failure? Is there a design to settle the Palestinians in Lebanon?**

The issue of the war of the camps at present is different from that in the past, because it today includes a number of local and regional political positions, that should mature. There are also international plans for the region, especially for the Palestinians, which must be activated, along with the reshuffling of some Arab positions. Thus, the present war is aimed at achieving certain political results on various levels. The waging of this war on the local and regional levels, did not achieve its goals. We notice that everybody is expecting something, and that is why all are providing their own initiatives, in such a manner that does not comply with their original stands. I believe that the complexity of the Iranian initiative is attributed to the political dimensions of this war. I also believe that the fighters are not capable of adopting firm positions that would release the current tension, faced at present. It seems that this war is destined to continue for a long time, although there could be pacification between one round and another. The political situation in this region is that of preparation for achieving political plans, especially regarding the American policy in the Middle East and that of the Soviet Union within Lebanese and Palestinian circles. As for the settlement of the Palestinians in Lebanon, I don't believe that the present stage will serve such a design. This issue is of an international dimension worked out on international or regional levels. But the declaration of such a design, or its activation, requires introductions and a number of objective conditions, of which only a little was accomplished. Thus, I consider this stage as one of preparation to reach the proper grounds to many other. I also believe that most of the mottos used locally, such as the autonomous disarming the Palestinians or their settlement in Lebanon, are merely aimed at finding a positive, political and

cultural status for the Lebanese and Palestinian, through which proposals in the future could be administered, whether positively or negatively. In other words, this stage is one of reaching popular political alertness, and not a stage for plans.

**Do you expect the war of the camps to be transformed into a sectarian war, or has this war bypassed this danger?**

I believe that the Islamic confessional situation in Lebanon has bypassed this stage, because the outcome of negative positions within Palestinian circles, do not belong to any specific sect. The sectarian issues have been enormously exhausted, and chaos would not provoke anything on the local scene. I don't imagine that the war of the camps would be transformed into a sectarian war, amidst regional developments that may exert pressure in a bid to lead the issue to a sectarian aspect. I notice that the Iranian initiative has succeeded in releasing sectarian tension in this war.

**We hear of gradual Israeli withdrawals from Jezzín. In case this is true, do you expect Jezzín to face the same fate of Maghdousheh, or would there be clashes among elements of the nationalist rank?**

I do not have accurate information on this matter, I know that Jezzín differs in its confessional and sectarian elements from Maghdousheh, which was, and still is, a strategic pawn in the camp war. If Israel was serious in trying to withdraw from Jezzín, it would have tried to reshuffle the political equation in Lebanon in order to implement its project, namely to transform Lebanon into sectarian cantons, along with the exhaustion of the Islamic and Christian political scene, to an extent that it will not be able to benefit from the independent position that rejects the Israeli policy. I know that Israel's policy is to transform Lebanon, politically and economically, into an Israeli protectorate, through the weakening of all forces, regardless of their sectarian affiliations. We, therefore, should face matters with malice, in view of the background of the Israeli policy, which lies behind the withdrawals and the

International and regional circumstances, which may intersect or communicate with the Israeli policy. Israel is not the only moving element on the Lebanese scene. In fact, it is the element most benefitting from this condition. Lebanese circles, to whichever region or sect they belong, have a membership relation to a number of regional and international political axes. We should watch the facts carefully, and try to avoid what we can avoid.

**Signs of a Syrian - Lebanese summit are now in surface through the shuttles of mediators.**

**What are your expectations, and what do you think its outcome will be, if it is held?**

I don't expect the convention of such a summit in the near future, because there are root problems in the Lebanese-Syrian relations, particularly on the political level, and because there are problems in inter-Arab relations as well. I don't see real facts leading to this summit very shortly, unless all difficulties are bypassed. It seems that this pawn is being used by the Arabs and by international factions in order to activate the situation against certain political projects. In fact, the present circumstances need a long time before they mature and render an outcome. This issue is still confused, with respect to the nature of the Lebanese situation, and with respect to the regional climate. I believe that this issue is temporary, and the reconciliation is not yet at hand.

**Patriarch Sfeir declared that there are intentions to partition. If this happens, it would be a warning for an end to Lebanon. What is your point of view, and what are the effective factors that may prevent this partition?**

I don't share with Patriarch Sfeir his pessimism on this issue, because facts on the ground do not inspire such a future status on the official and legal levels. I am still convinced that the Lebanese issue is part of an international equation, and not a mere political situation in the region.

Therefore, Lebanon's unity stems from the international need for a foothold in Arab world. This makes Lebanon an adequate context for international intelligence service on a wide level. I also believe that partition on the ground constitutes a kind of political experiment in order to determine available dimensions to solve the Lebanese crisis on the level of international decisions. It also represents the center of an international political nucleus to determine the dimension of Lebanon's future. When we discuss the partitioning of Lebanon, we must seriously consider that the unity of any country and its partitioning, is related to the unity of the whole region and of each country in it. I think that, so far, no international decision to reorganize conditions in the region on new basis has been taken.

Even if Israel wanted to partition Lebanon, it could not do so, because it cannot pressure contradictory international interests, it can only balance its political and security interests with the international interests without being able to confront them.

**Talks are circulated about an enlarged Islamic meeting in Damascus. Will you participate in this meeting, and what do you expect its outcome to be?**

I was never part of the previous enlarged Islamic meetings, because I don't have an official position within this Lebanese political game, and don't want to get involved in such a position. I don't imagine that the enlarged Islamic meeting is a simple matter, effectively, it undergoes many political complications that are linked with local and regional complications, in view of the conflicting Arab political positions within the Islamic circle. This position entails many problems. If such a meeting is held it means that it has surmounted all difficulties and that all matters were settled and arranged and all that is left for implementation. We have become accustomed to see spiritual Lebanese summits and religious meetings, for making decisions, but not to implement these decisions.

**Do you expect the United Nations to renew the UNIFIL mandate next month. How should its role and position be, in your opinion ?**

I imagine that the United Nations will renew the mandate of UNIFIL in Lebanon, because this issue serves as a political interest for a number of international regional and European plans. The withdrawal of the U.N. troops from Lebanon means the withdrawal of international political positions, especially the American position, from Lebanon. This is why I don't imagine that there are complications regarding the renewal. As for the new policy of these forces, I don't think there are new developments within the United Nations that will help in changing the nature of the UNIFIL's mission. The aim of their presence is to maintain a balance in order to help Israel maintain the security of its border, on one side, and to fulfill the Lebanese psychological dreams, on the other side. The problem is that these forces have been transformed into a trench that protects Israel from the resistance instead of protecting the Lebanese in the South. There should be an international force to protect the Southerners from Israeli aggressions, instead of protecting Israel from the Lebanese fighters, who are trying to liberate their land.

**Is state of lawlessness in West Beirut attributed to the shallowness of the plan ? Whom do you consider responsible for this and what is the means to restore security in West Beirut ?**

I believe security in West and East Beirut is related political security. When there are strong political plans in the region, and when political accord is reached on the regional level, then people can enjoy security. The current deterioration of security in West Beirut, is a result of political problems on the ground related to the war of the camps, on one side, and to the regional differences on the other. In another way, these problems are related to inter - Lebanese differences on the ground and the meddling of local, regional and international intelligence that would create a security war along with a military war within the war of the camps. I notice that lawlessness reached its utmost when there was political lawlessness. No regional initiative could be reached except through a political accord. The security issue moves positively, or negatively according to the political issue. This does not only apply to West Beirut, but everywhere. The difference is that this issue in West Beirut is publicly declared, while in other regions it is veiled with secrecy.

/9317  
CSO: 4400/115



AL-HASHIM OPTIMISTIC ABOUT DE-ESCALATION, ACCORD WITH SYRIA

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 2 Jan 87 pp 14, 15

[Interview with Joseph al-Hashim, Minister of Post and Telecommunications and of Public Health and Social Affairs, by William Dahir: "There Is no Alliance between President al-Jumayyil and 'Arafat; Joseph al-Hashim Tells AL-HAWADITH, 'President al-Asad Is not Insisting on Implementing the Letter of the Tripartite Agreement';" date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] It was Minister Joseph al-Hashim's opinion that the general climate tended to be more optimistic than pessimistic. He affirmed that progress had been made in the ongoing efforts to bring the Syrian and the Lebanese regimes closer together. He said that these efforts, which had shifted to some of the issues that constitute a foundation for the bilateral meeting between President Amin al-Jumayyil and President Hafiz al-Asad, had become more objective.

Mr al-Hashim indicated that there was some meeting of the minds about defining the spirit of the Tripartite Agreement, and even though he emphasized that satisfactory progress had been made in the efforts which were becoming intense these days, he said he could not pinpoint a place or a time for the summit meeting. Minister al-Hashim asserted authoritatively that the subject of special relations was not being considered with integration as the basis for those relations. He said that it was not the term, special relations, which the Lebanese forces found objectionable, but that it was rather what that term meant that was. Mr al-Hashim expressed his belief that mediators were able to come up with an interpretation of those relations. He also said that what was conveyed by Minister al-Tajir to Syria and what was relayed by him from Syria to Lebanon constituted a point of agreement. The minister was referring to the fact that there were other subjects which were still being discussed and considered.

Mr al-Hashim described what is being said about an alliance between President al-Jumayyil and Mr Yasir 'Arafat as distorted newspaper reports, and he considered the war in the camps to be a new episode in the series of episodes which Lebanon has been experiencing. He said that the purpose of these episodes was to break down Lebanon's authority or divide its land and its people.

Minister al-Hashim thought it unlikely that an Arab summit meeting would be held before the Islamic summit meeting. He said, "We and all those who are blessed with sound opinions and incisive points of view--and President Chadli Bendjedid

is foremost among those--think that the normal overture to any Arab summit meeting would be a Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting. Without that summit an Arab summit meeting would turn into a new battleground for Arab conflicts, which, particularly after the war in Lebanon's camps, have become quite sharp." Minister al-Hashim emphasized the fact that the intra-Lebanese dialogue was associated with other dialogues. He also emphasized that in his recent meeting with [former] Prime Minister Karami the two men had reached agreement on the specific topics for resuming the dialogue sessions. He said there would be consultations with ministers Barri and Junblatt about these topics.

AL-HAWADITH conducted a lengthy interview with Minister al-Hashim during which various topics of the hour were dealt with. The minister revealed during that interview that a few Arab countries had some reservations about giving Lebanon financial aid to be used for reconstruction purposes because they feared that guns would destroy everything which might be built by those funds.

The text of the interview with the minister of post and telecommunications and of public health and social affairs follows.

[Question] Minister Junblatt has warned about grave developments which he described would be more dangerous than all previous developments. Based on what you know about the situation, do you share his pessimism, and do you think that a major eruption [of violence] is likely?

[Answer] Minister Junblatt may have more information about this subject than I do because he is right smack in the middle of everything that has either a negative or a positive impact on the situation in Lebanon. However, growing or declining negative developments in Lebanon seem to be part of the ebb and flow of the tide regionally and internationally. That is why I can neither predict nor foretell whether there will be more negative developments in the coming days or whether the security situation will be eased. But I do think that the general climate tends to be more optimistic than pessimistic.

[Question] After his meeting with you, the chairman of the Egyptian Interests Delegation stated that his discussions with you had dealt with the war in the camps and the possibility of assisting in moving the current situation in Lebanon out of its present position. Do you believe that Egypt is becoming involved in the crisis once again? What new [proposals or ideas] did he convey to you?

[Answer] First of all, as far as the Egyptian position is concerned, the chairman of the Egyptian delegation affirmed that Egypt was maintaining its position with regard to the Lebanese question. In other words, Egypt supports the process of national dialogue whose aim is to reach the reconciliation which would provide normal access to all the remedies which are called for by the situation in Lebanon: in politics, security and the economy. Did he relay a new position? That is the position. The developments that have taken place in Lebanon must have created new conditions for some of the Arab countries through which they could project some kind of position in Lebanon--and from Lebanon to other areas--with regard to the crisis in the region or in other Arab countries.



[Question] There is information indicating that the Soviets and Algerians are engaged in activities to stop the war in the camps and convene an Arab summit before the Islamic summit meeting. Can such a summit meeting be held in the near future? What is your personal evaluation of these efforts?

[Answer] I do not think that the climate is conducive to convening an Arab summit meeting before the Islamic summit meeting is held. We and those who are blessed with sound opinions and incisive points of view--and foremost among those is President Chadli Bendjedid--think that a Lebanese-Syrian summit would be the normal overture to any Arab summit. Without that summit an Arab summit meeting would turn into a new battleground for Arab conflicts which have become quite sharp, especially after the war in Lebanon's camps. A Lebanese-Syrian summit then is the way to an Arab summit meeting. This is what President Chadli Bendjedid is trying to accomplish through the Algerian delegation and the efforts and contacts he is making with both the Syrians and the Lebanese.

[Question] But how far have the Algerian efforts gone?

[Answer] If one may say so, the efforts that are being made are efforts to eliminate tension between the Lebanese and Syrian regimes. Significant progress is being made today in that regard, particularly after the relative calm that has been experienced in the war in the camps. Recently, progress in that regard had been slow because the war in the camps had become extremely important to all Arab parties and to the Syrians in particular. However, I think I can consider the progress that has been made to be significant and that we have moved because of these efforts from a position of exchanging verbal remarks to one that is more objective. We've shifted to some of the topics which could make up the foundation for a bilateral agreement.

[Question] But opponents of the regime and those who are close to Syria think that such talk is being said to generate civil strife of a certain kind. They say that the regime informed most persons who have friendly ties with it and with the Syrian regime that they accept the special relations which are based on a foundation of integration between the two countries in various areas. That is, they accept what was mentioned in the Tripartite Agreement which had been rejected by President al-Jumayyil. How would you comment on such talk?

[Answer] First of all, the information you have or what was relayed to you by others about the interpretation of the term, special relations, is erroneous. It is true there has been agreement over the term, special relations, but not about what that term means in the context of integration. I believe that President al-Asad did state on more than one occasion that he is not insisting on a literal interpretation of the Tripartite Agreement and that he would rather move ahead on the basis of the spirit of that agreement. This means that points of view are getting closer on defining the spirit of the Tripartite Agreement or on using new words and meanings to give it shape and form. We support the concept of special relations, but we have to interpret those relations in a manner that does not infringe upon the sovereignty or independence of either country. We have to interpret the term in a manner that would ensure the freedom with which each country makes its own decisions.

[Question] Have those who have been engaged in the mediation effort between B'abda Palace and al-Muhajirin Palace come up with an interpretation of these relations in accordance with what you mentioned, and ...?

[Answer] I think so.

[Question] Your Excellency, you said that significant progress has been made in those efforts. Does this mean that you expect the summit meeting between the two presidents to be held soon?

[Answer] I cannot pinpoint a place or a time for the summit meeting, but I can affirm that satisfactory progress has been made, and that the efforts have been intensified these days. In the course of our communications we are eliminating all those matters which stand in the way of the meeting. But I wish to reaffirm that this is being done in the context of Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and ability to make decisions freely.

#### Strauss's Proposal Does not Represent the Lebanese Regime's Point of View

[Question] But information indicates that Strauss has washed his hands of the efforts which he had initiated between Beirut and Damascus, and it has been understood that the regime was not satisfied with the statements Strauss made in Saudi Arabia, particularly those that had to do with writing a new formula for the regime in Lebanon. What do you think about Strauss's proposals? Do his statements reflect some aspect of certain Lebanese preferences in that context?

[Answer] What Strauss proposed does not represent the Lebanese regime's point of view. Mr Strauss contacted various parties, and these contacts enabled him to reach certain subjective or personal definitions, if one may say so. There is also information in the press which states that President al-Asad met with Strauss more than once, and that means that Strauss's mediation has not been suspended even though it is proceeding on a course which parallels that of other mediation efforts.

[Question] Did President al-Asad meet with Strauss before or after Strauss made the statements he did make in Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] This is information that the press would know about, but I personally don't know. I did say, however, that I had read a news report to that effect, but I said that only to affirm that the contacts between Strauss and President al-Asad had not been suspended.

[Question] Your Excellency, there are parties on the scene who link the regime to the war. Isn't it time to sit around one table and try to find out what the Lebanese people want their regime to be like? You may be able to find a way out of this lengthy, nightmarish predicament!

[Answer] I am not one of those people who have led themselves to believe or to think that political reform is the reason behind the war in Lebanon. I do not believe that because many objectives are being sought from that war, the least of which is what we witness and observe daily in Lebanon's geography and among

its people. Our daily observations confirm that there is a conspiracy which has targeted Lebanon: its aim is to break up the country geographically and tear up and divide its people. This means that the Lebanese people can confront that conspiracy to the extent that they can agree among themselves. But the conspiracy will achieve its grave objectives in Lebanon if we continue to remain as shackled as we have been. An agreement over the reforms that are to be carried out comes as a supplement to the negative developments which have been seen in Lebanon. These reforms are not the cause; they are rather the product of what is happening. I am affirming here that when all those--and they are many--who have been interfering in Lebanon's affairs cease and desist, and when the many pressures that have been placed on Lebanon and its leaders by Arabs, westerners and Israelis are lifted, the Lebanese people will reach an agreement over all internal reforms that concern them directly, and they will do so in the easiest and shortest way.

[Question] Some people think that until recently Magdushah was the last line of defense against a state of cantons. Others, however, think that Magdushah does not in any way represent an obstacle to the implementation of such a plan, if one does exist. Do you believe that the subject of cantons is being proposed at the present time as a trial balloon, or is it a subject that is being considered?

[Answer] I am one of those people who say that the war in the camps and its consequences constitute a new episode in a series of episodes that Lebanon has experienced in the course of efforts which are being made to break up its authority or divide its land and its people. Evidence for that lies in the fact that this war got two birds with one stone. It led to the migration of a large Christian town. That is, 6,000 families migrated from the villages in Sidon's suburbs, which made up what was left of the foundation of the Christian presence there. Is this merely a coincidence, or is it part of the plan that was made to complete the migration operations which are still going on according to plan? At any rate, we are waiting for things to calm down so that we can go back to the political game and confront the many games that are exported to us from abroad.

[Question] There is no doubt that the war in the camps has created something akin to new alliances in Lebanon. In this regard much is being said about an alliance between President al-Jumayyil and Mr Yasir 'Arafat. In your opinion, is there any truth to that?

[Answer] These are distorted newspaper reports. The natural alliance that must exist is that which should exist between President Amin al-Jumayyil and the Lebanese people: an intra-Lebanese alliance that should emerge in the shadow of the existing divisions in Lebanon. But if some people are referring to the fact that the passports of Palestinians living abroad were renewed, that was a humanitarian matter which was approved by Ambassador Samih al-Baba. He was the one who sent a letter to that effect, requesting that the passports be renewed as ordered by Mr Rashid Karami, the minister of foreign affairs. This is because Palestinians residing in those foreign countries could be forced to leave those countries when their Palestinian passports expire. If this constitutes an alliance, then I believe that this alliance is an imaginary one that exists in the minds of forces in Lebanon.

[Question] It has been said that Mr Mahdi al-Tajir's shuttle trips between Damascus and Beirut are coming up against obstacles with regard to the views that are being proposed. Can you tell us what al-Tajir did really relay to President al-Jumayyil and what he did convey to Damascus?

[Answer] The information I have indicates that what was conveyed to Syria by al-Tajir and what al-Tajir relayed from Syria to Lebanon can turn out to be more of a point of agreement than a point of conflict. Deliberations on this matter are continuing. There are other subjects which are still being discussed and considered, and I hope that these deliberations will reach the positive outcome that is required.

[Question] Do the Lebanese Forces agree to the establishment of special relations with Syria? Is this a subject of dispute within the Christians' ranks?

[Answer] This too was the subject of deliberations with leaders of the Lebanese Forces who share our opinion. They do not object to the term, special relations, but they do object to what is implied by it. But if this term defines the importance of preserving the sovereignty, independence and freedom of both countries, then there is no problem as far as the Lebanese Forces are concerned.

[Question] But has this subject been resolved with President al-Asad, and has an understanding been reached on this matter?

[Answer] That subject in particular is still being talked about, and so far it has not created any disagreement.

[Question] It seems that there is nothing to indicate that a solution to the crisis in Lebanon will soon be found. What can be done to alleviate the suffering of the Lebanese people, at least with regard to their way of life?

[Answer] The best thing that can be done is for the government to carry out its duties because no one has been overseeing the economy, and no one has been overseeing political or security matters. The Council of Ministers and the government provide the normal oversight for politics and security; they could at least manage the crisis if they could neither deal with it nor resolve it. But now even management of the crisis is missing because when it comes to politics and security in Lebanon, there are no longer any legal or moral restraints. This means that all parties in Lebanon are going about their business and no one is overseeing their legal, political or security activities. It would be enough for the Council of Ministers to meet to create such a restraint. The Council of Ministers can make a few decisions which could check this grave deterioration, particularly in the people's way of life and in the economy.

[Question] We know that local contacts to revive the intra-Lebanese dialogue have not been suspended, and we know that you personally are undertaking most of these contacts. Do you believe that dialogue with the government is now imminent?

[Answer] I believe that the intra-Lebanese dialogue is linked with other dialogues. At any rate in my recent meeting with [former] Prime Minister Karami,



he and I came to a certain understanding on the resumption of the dialogue sessions whereby those points where we do not see eye to eye could be surmounted. [Former] Prime Minister Karami accepted the formula that I took to him, and he promised he would talk it over with Minister Nabih Barri and Minister Walid Junblatt. We are waiting for Minister Barri's return from Damascus so that deliberations can be resumed around the points that were the subject of disagreement and that have been amended.

[Question] But those around President Sham'un are saying that he is refusing to return to the horse race on the basis of the topics that had been proposed.

[Answer] That is true, but we did find in the topics that were proposed a common denominator between the two points of view. And I cannot deny that I found [former] Prime Minister Karami responsive.

[Question] Can you tell us what are President Sham'un's conditions for resuming the dialogue?

[Answer] I think that the items which have been reached and those which were reported to [former] Prime Minister Karami have [former] President Sham'un's approval because they do not conflict at all with his point of view.

[Question] What has become of the government delegation that was to be formed to set Arab aid to Lebanon in motion? Have you received a reply from Mr Hamadi al-Sayd regarding his contacts in that regard?

[Answer] First of all, this subject is extremely important. Arab countries approved 2 billion dollars in aid to Lebanon at the Fes Summit meeting. Lebanon has received 400 million dollars of this aid, but there are 1.6 billion dollars which have not yet been received. The contacts we made were those which were made in particular through the visit of Mr Hamadi al-Sayd who was sent by the secretary general of the Arab League to find out if the Arab countries were willing to offer part of this amount in aid to Lebanon. Mr Hamadi al-Sayd encouraged us as a result of his preliminary contacts with the countries in question, and he told us that resources were available. He said that if these resources did not lead to payment of the entire amount, that at least part of the sum would be paid and that those payments would curb the rise of the dollar against the Lebanese pound. But in my most recent communication with him, Mr Hamadi al-Sayd told me that some countries had reservations about the use of these funds in reconstruction. How can those who can afford to pay make those payments for reconstruction only to have the guns destroy what we built? So I told him that giving the aid would be enough: the money would be deposited in dollars in the Central Bank to alleviate the brunt of the high cost of living. Those dollar deposits would reinforce the Central Bank's position and curb the rise in the price of the dollar. There is one exception: part of those funds should be used to subsidize wheat. In this case the Arab League could assist the Lebanese people to prevent a famine from taking place in the country. This would be a major, humanitarian effort, and I believe that Arab countries should not fail to carry it out. According to what Mr Hamadi al-Sayd told me, the secretary general of the Arab League will send a report to that effect to Lebanon's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In light of that report some measures could be taken, including contacting the Arab countries in question.

PROSPECTS FOR NATIONWIDE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS REVIEWED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 19 Dec 86 pp 50, 51

[Article: "Agitation among the People Is Growing and Recommendations are Following in Succession in Lebanon: Economic Solutions That Ignore the 'Basis of the Plague'"]

[Text] The war of the camps -- whose likes, in its viciousness, the history of the war in Lebanon has not known -- has not totally succeeded in overriding people's anxieties over survival, since prices have reached a point which is beyond the buying power of 96 percent of the citizens, as studies and statistical data issued recently point out. Women in the two segments of Lebanon have held demonstrations which were marked by anger and cries for the downfall of the government, and in the meantime the General Federation of Labor announced a comprehensive warning strike, demanding the government, the "statelets" and employers to respond to its demands immediately.

In the course of this, plans for resolutions started to rain down on the scene. They have all been "integrated solutions" to the economic monetary crisis, starting with the "solutions" of the General Federation of Labor and ending with the "solutions" of the six-man committee, and they are all of the technical type. As for the other side to the solution, that is, the political and security side, everyone is more or less neglecting to call for that, first on grounds that it is out of the question in the climate of political and military agitation, as if Lebanon were suffering from a "crisis of loss of consciousness" which it will be rid of only when the crisis assumes its full dimension, then because there are people who are intensively exerting pressure on those who demand security and conciliation, on grounds that such demands strip the regional and local political, ideological and military struggles of all content.

The fact is that the struggles going on on Lebanon's territory have become stripped of all human content, above all the social content and the aspiration for a better life -- except for the factional content, which is still influential, although it has undergone some diminution in its intensity. The citizens' real demands now consist of relief from the war and respite for the combatants from the preoccupations of combat, for psychological reasons, then reasons of survival, at the same time. The psychiatrists of Lebanon

believe almost unanimously that the Lebanese citizens, or the overwhelming majority of them, are suffering from symptoms of diverse psychological ailments to the point where one of them has alleged that a general state of schizophrenia is present in the psyche of every Lebanese.

This introduction seems necessary for diagnosing the "health" of the Lebanese society, in which the war has brought about a severe state of haggardness, at a time when currents among the people have started agitating, exerting pressure for release from the painful state of affairs which dominates the Lebanese scene, although such agitation has seemed tentative so far.

The solutions propounded in the wake of the collapse in the exchange rate of the pound to 67 to the dollar appear, in spite of their comprehensive nature, like "a tunnel which is lit but ultimately blocked," as described by a foreign journalist whose paper was recently devoted to the Lebanese economic situation. However, the most prominent of these solutions were the measures the central council of the Bank of Lebanon proposed, which are still being circulated in the Lebanese banking sector milieu, resident and non-resident, and arose in conjunction with Dr Edmond Na'im's recommendation to the chairman of the Chamber of Deputies, Husayn al-Husayni, that Articles 19 and 320 of the penal code be amended in the direction of tightening the imposition of penalties concerning the opening and activation of accounts in pounds outside Lebanon, in the desire to prevent speculation in domestic currency.

The solutions the Bank of Lebanon presented are contained in four general instructions, namely:

1. General Instruction 688 raising the proportion of the compulsory cash reserve imposed on the banks' commitments in Lebanese pounds to 13 percent and raising the proportion of treasury bonds to 30 percent in the case of banks whose deposits in Lebanese pounds are less than 1 billion pounds and to 45 percent in the case of banks whose deposits amount to or exceed a billion pounds. The general instruction has made it mandatory that the banks underwrite treasury bonds in the primary market to the proportion of 60 percent of the deposits in Lebanese pounds they receive starting 4 December 1987.

2. General Instruction 689 prohibiting the receipt of deposits, the provision of loans and the opening of accounts in Lebanese pounds by resident banks and financial institutions with respect to non-resident banks and financial institutions. This prohibition does not exempt any activity or operation taking place in other accounts, whether inside or outside the budget. The general instruction calls on the banks to close all previously opened accounts within a period not to go beyond 1 January 1987 and to prevent activity in these accounts as of 15 January 1987, under the penalty of payment of an interest penalty on the total value of activities in these accounts equal to the rate of interest imposed on the drop in compulsory reserves. The general instruction left scope for handing the bank in violation over to the higher banking authority for adoption of the suitable measures against it.



3. General Instruction 690 reminding the banks of the prohibition on loans in Lebanese pounds to non-residents and calling on them to liquidate all loans to non-residents within a period ending 31 December 1986, under the penalty of payment of an interest penalty on the maximum balance of these loans during each month equal to the rate of interest imposed on the drop in compulsory reserves.

4. General Instruction 691 reminding banks to start applying the rate of cover stipulated in General Instructions 435 and 610, starting in July 1986, and calling on banks which have not attained the imposed rate to settle their conditions to conform with the provisions of these two general instructions, and, in the event these rates have not been attained, to deposit a special reserve with the Bank of Lebanon equal to 35 percent of the difference between the minimum for private funds imposed in accordance with the cover rate of 3 percent and the actual level of these funds in its possession, during months where the latest previous statement shows a deficit in the rate of cover.

The bank's general instructions are in practice integrated with the Chamber of Deputies' decree withdrawing permission for the government and its general organizations to borrow from commercial banks and the Bank of Lebanon, except for borrowing through bonds. This means that general organizations, like the Electricity Organization, will not have the right from now on to borrow from any source and must settle their financial conditions by means of their own resources. The chairman of the Chamber of Deputies, Mr Husayn al-Husayni, has considered that this measure will have the effect of improving the exchange rate of the pound to the extent that it results in halting the chaos in borrowing.

On that subject, Lebanese have started noting the Chamber of Deputies' increasing attention to monetary and economic affairs as a result of the vacuum the government's absolute absence has created and economic affairs' assumption of the major status among the concerns of the Lebanese.

[There has been] the imposition of ceiling limits on loans the Bank of Lebanon can give the government for 1986 in the light of the stipulated monetary policy, which is in keeping with the policy of the restriction on expenditures which the public sector must follow.

These measures seem of utmost importance, but they have not been greeted by contentment among bankers, who have "viewed them" as a golden shackle around our necks leading to comprehensive public sector dominance of the banking sector.

Other bankers consider that these measures give the Central Bank a free hand in every small detail concerned with banking activity, in the context of loans, liquidity or trade in currency rates. However, the general feeling in the banking sector is inclined toward absolute cooperation with the Central Bank, because matters have reached a grave point in social terms and it is necessary to stop speculation in the pound. However, that will primarily depend on the extent to which political affairs develop for the better. "Frankly, everything is contingent on the politicians," as one banker says,

adding "Any technical remedy is good, but the basis of the plague is the political and security situation."

It is expected that a dispute will flare up, in any case, between the Central Bank and the Society of Banks over certain measures, especially those bearing on cover and liquidity. One banker says that it is difficult to convince the Central Bank that there no longer is enough money in the possession of the banks to lend to the government.

However, there is a measure of significance, which is the setting of a ceiling on lending to the government by the Bank of Lebanon. That is a "very important" measure, because it makes it mandatory for the government to look for financial resources outside the Central Bank, and this will inevitably help halt the decline in the exchange rate of the pound and lead to a "financial constriction" in the body of the government, which will result in a halt in unfeasible spending, an increase in taxes on incomes and levies and perhaps the release of contingents of government employees and the elimination of some government departments. This measure will mean the suspension of road building projects and "the distribution of money among citizens" which some ministers have had the habit of following. However, productive projects will enjoy Central Bank agreement to their financing.

These are preliminary observations on the Bank of Lebanon's declared program. However, a major question exists, which is, since the Central Bank has produced a major program for confronting the monetary crisis, what is the benefit of the program prepared by the six-man committee [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami and minister of finance Camille Chamoun have formed?

Informed sources say that the program of the six-man committee of experts is just advice to the political leaders concerning the measures they ought to take to stop the terrible decline in the exchange rate of the pound, including the need to show that there is a government in the country which is observing the interests of the people and more important than that the need to follow up on the daily decisions related to the life of the people and servants and their lives.

Proceeding from this consideration, the committee recommended a number of measures, after it explained the nature of the economic monetary crisis, its causes and results, then entered into the details of the solutions. However, the committee suggested to all parties that the political solution should be the avenue of approach.

Informed sources point out that the solutions set forth, by the Central Bank or by the six-man committee, have personal support from Premier Karami and President Chamoun, since they would have led to a halt in the decline of the exchange rate of the pound. There is no room for doubt regarding this support, but the question which observers raise is, will these solutions actually be carried out? Who will supervise their execution, since the government has no authority? (Or if it did the absence of it would be better, because its revival would pave the way for the ministers to request massive allocations for their ministries which would in reality represent an organized waste of government money.)

With the Lebanese man in the street, the preliminary reaction to the Bank of Lebanon's general instructions ranges from "optimists" who have determined to sell their dollars on the currency market, fearing a drop in their exchange rate, to "realists," who have been burnt by the fire of previous experiences and have preferred to "sleep" on their foreign currency reserves, refusing to convert them into Lebanese currency on grounds that the measures taken are just technical and insufficient to improve the value of the pound or any other currency in the light of the continuation of the security situation in its state.

It appears that the "realists'" current is the one that prevails, by reason of the renewed rise in rates of the dollar at a slow pace following the evaporation of the new psychological state the bank's measures have engendered.

In the wake of the execution of the comprehensive strike by the General Labor Federation, the workers are continuing their pressures to force upon the government the execution of social and technical solutions which will have the effect of reducing the burden of economic suffering. Foremost among these solutions are the stimulation of existing social institutions, such as the Social Insurance Fund, and newly-created ones, such as the bureau of pharmaceuticals and the cooperative center, and the imposition of surveillance on the prices of basic materials and services (foodstuffs, medical products and school allocations) and so forth. However, the most important thing cited in the workers' demands was the support for industries and productive sectors through loans on easy terms. Will it be possible to achieve this in the midst of the fire, destruction and vicious fighting?

11887

CSO: 4404/173

## BRIEFS

AMAL WELCOMES SUMMIT--At today's session of the Amal Political Bureau, which was chaired by its deputy leader, Colonel 'Akif Haydar, the movement gave its blessing to any meeting with unity as its goal. Amal made special reference here to a summit involving the Lebanese and Syrian presidents. However, the Political Bureau rejected attempts to mislead the people, and to raise their expectations of meetings that are not founded on anything solid, and have no connection with reality. The bureau also expressed its belief that any meeting or dialogue which does not have the interests of the entire Lebanese people at heart is doomed. In addition, Amal said the PNSF had failed to comply with the terms of the Iranian initiative. At the same time, it asserted that if the PNSF had not taken the lead in the fighting, the pro-'Arafat groups would not have been able to come out in the open. [Text]  
[Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Dec 86] /12913

CSO: 4400/100

## BRIEFS

TELEVISION RELAY CENTERS--Riyadh, 28 December (SPA)--Minister of Information 'Ali al-Sha'ir has approved the tenders for turning eight television relay centers into permanent centers. These are the centers at Al-Artawiyah, Linah, Al-Musayjid, Mahd al-Dhahab, Ramah, Bani Sa'd, Bani Malik, and Jabal Khashab at Ha'il. This was stated to SPA by Ibrahim al-Qudahi al-Muhammad, Ministry of Information under secretary for administrative affairs, who pointed out that the implementation of the project will be according to the following timetable: Al-Artawiyah within six months; Al-Musayjid within six months; Bani Sa'd, Bani Malik, and Ramah within eight months; Mahd al-Dhahab and Linah within nine months; and Jabal Khashab within ten months. The ministry is completing the measures for handing over the sites to the company that won the tender. [Excerpt] [Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1120 GMT 28 Dec 86 LD] /12913

CSO: 4400/100

## AL-THAWRAH LINKS MURPHY TOUR TO ISLAMIC SUMMIT

JN100825 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 10 Jan 87

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "What Is Murphy Preparing for the Islamic Summit?" AL-THAWRAH says: Despite the entangling threads of the present U.S. diplomatic game in the region, its features are clear to all. It is no coincidence that the United States is intensifying diplomatic efforts in the region at this particular stage. The United States is fully aware of the significance of any of its moves as well as of its direct and indirect signals. It is not strange that the United States acted before the convening of the Islamic summit in an attempt to arrange cards according to its diplomacy and objectives and to give momentum to the capitulatory peace process by recruiting new parties to expand the circle of the Camp David accords between Israel and some Arab regimes and, consequently, to spread the Camp David course and to adopt it as the only method to resolve the regional crisis.

AL-THAWRAH adds: Although many observers have linked Richard Murphy's regional tour with the U.S. attempt to revive U.S. diplomatic activities in the region to regain the Reagan administration's credibility, which has been rubbed in the mud of defeat and disappointment, the moment Murphy arrived at the first station of his tour the smell of the U.S. diplomatic swamp, which is filled with the garbage of foiled U.S. plans and solutions, issued forth. Events have proven the blatant contradiction of these plans and solutions regarding any serious effort to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region and have exposed the falsehood of U.S. claims and U.S. dependence on deception to trap some Arab regimes which are ready to enter the swamp of capitulation to the Zionist enemy and its strategic ally, the United States.

AL-THAWRAH says: It seems that Murphy this time has opened the Islamic summit gate to peddle what he and other U.S. envoys have failed to achieve before in many Arab summits. Capitulationists can no longer turn Arab summits into a rostrum to gain Arab support for the Camp David course or into a party to applaud the concessions they make to enemies of the Arab cause.

AL-THAWRAH says: Hence appears the features of intensive moves by parties interested in the Murphy tour to arrange the Islamic summit cards to help peddle the capitulation course and to give the writ of acquittal to the Camp David regime in Egypt and the regime of Hassan II in Morocco. However, they forget the fact that a summit whose agenda is dictated by Richard Murphy cannot be an Islamic or Arab summit. Such a summit will only produce crumbs of empty media words.



## PRESS CRITICIZES MURPHY TOUR OF MIDDLE EAST

JN090955 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Murphy and Fanning the Fire," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says in its editorial: The United States paved the way for Richard Murphy's talks with Zionist officials by holding talks between the U.S. assistant defense secretary and Shamir. These talks dealt with all Israeli arms needs and with the Israeli military support for U.S. diplomacy. While the U.S. Administration claims Murphy came to the Middle East to explore ways for peace, this administration also knows that it doesn't have to be acquainted with the views of its Camp David allies, the Zionist entity and the Egyptian regime. The United States also knows that the Camp David accords have not achieved and will not achieve peace. Hence, Murphy's tour is like moving from one room to another inside the U.S. State Department building or inside the Pentagon. Thus, Murphy did not come to search for peace but rather to look for new complications to confront the international move taking place for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East.

AL-BA'TH continues: We are very accustomed to viewing any U.S. move on the Middle East as being linked to an international or regional event with the aim of obstructing such an event or to subjugating it to U.S. pressures. Meanwhile, international activity to remove Middle East tension has increased because this [word indistinct] has geographic and regional extensions which threaten world peace. The United States, which is not interested in world peace as proved by its space armament program, will do its best to fan the fire in the Middle East, believing it can limit the geographic spread of a Middle East fire without taking into consideration that such a fire could actually spread and that extinguishing it cannot be done by trying to put it out after it has already broken out.

The paper concludes: The planners of U.S. policy have forgotten that the sons of our nation are fully convinced that the United States, just like Israel, is an enemy of the Arabs. They have also forgotten that Arab lethargy is not as everlasting as the U.S. planners believe, because a shock will awaken the Arabs and also because such lethargy does not affect all Arabs. The region's decision about war or peace is not made by those who do not possess decisionmaking because the nationalist Arab forces are the decisionmakers.



On the coincidence between the move and contacts held between the Egyptian regime and the 'Arafat clique on one hand and Murphy's tour on the other, the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says: The move of capitulationists in this phase is taking place on U.S.-Israeli instructions. Likewise, their practices prior to Murphy's current tour aimed at creating an appropriate atmosphere to cover the secret and public contacts being held between capitulationists and deviationist on one hand and the U.S. Administration on the other. For example, the 'Arafat clique's explosion of the so-called camps war was only a prelude to Murphy's tour and to the current capitulationist move. The deviationist clique believes this capitulationist move will be a bridge leading them to the morass of a capitulationist settlement.

This fact proves that the 'Arafat clique is involved in the U.S.-Israeli scheme to liquidate the Palestine question. Moreover, this clique has not hesitated to offer successive concessions to the Zionist enemy, beginning with this clique's announcement on relinquishing armed struggle and including its readiness to recognize Israel and to engage in direct negotiations with it. However, the political, military, and moral bankruptcy of this deviationist clique, as well as the announcement by the Palestinian masses and revolutionary factions that this clique only represents itself and has no right to speak in the name of the Arab struggle's central cause and in the name of the Palestinian Arab people, has made the capitulationist offers an object of suspicion even by Washington and Tel Aviv. Proof of this is the escalation of resistance inside the occupied territory as a practical reply to the capitulationist plot and also to the deviationists' course and claims, which are rejected by Palestinians and Arabs.

AL-THAWRAH explains that the only way left for the United States is to have a realistic view of the situation in the region and to deal with this situation in light of the fact that the United States is a superpower which enjoys permanent UN Security Council membership and the fact that there is a need to achieve a just peace along with its components approved by the international community, headed by an Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the attainment of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people. The road to this is in holding an international peace conference under UN auspices to be attended by the two superpowers, the USSR and the United States, particularly after developments in the region have affirmed that aggression, pressures, and threats will not impose a capitulationist peace, as the Arab masses and their steadfast forces, led by Syria, are determined to impose a just peace as well as to reject and resist capitulation and foil all capitulationist schemes.

/8309

CSO: 4400/113

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN SAUDI ARABIA

EA261855 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Brother Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the Political Bureau, deputy premier and minister of energy and minerals, arrived in Riyadh yesterday evening from Kuwait, at the start of a visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, during which he will deliver a letter from Brother Hayday Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Peoples Council, to his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd Al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia.

In a statement to the Saudi News Agency, brother Ibn Husaynun said that he would hold talks with senior Saudi officials aimed at developing relations between the two brotherly countries in the interests of the two peoples. They would also review the current situation at the Arab and international levels. He was received at Riyadh airport by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zamil, the Saudi minister of Industry and Electricity, and Brother Ali (al-Kaf), the charge d'Affaires of our embassy in Saudi Arabia.

Brother ibn Husaynun had just concluded a visit to Kuwait during which he delivered a letter from Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas to Al-Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of the State of Kuwait, and another letter from Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to his brother Sa'd al-'Abdullah al-Sabah, crown prince and prime minister of Kuwait. Brother ibn Husaynun described his visit and discussions with the officials in Kuwait as successful and productive regarding the development of relations between the two brotherly countries.

/12913

CSO: 4400/100

BRIEFS

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR ARAB SUMMIT--YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has announced that he and His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, have agreed to continue working together to clear the atmosphere in the Arab world. In an interview published today in ABU DHABI, he said that the postponed Arab summit should now be held. He noted that the Arab homeland's current circumstances highlight the need for such a conference. President Salih pointed out that developments in the Arab world call for an objective assessment of the importance of Egypt's return to the Arab fold. The YAR president also warned of the new international implications of the Iraq-Iran war, which are being revealed each day. [Text] [Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 Dec 86 NC] /12913

CSO: 4400/100

## PRESS CONFERENCE DETAILS CERTAIN PDPA ECONOMIC POLICIES

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 4 Sep 86 p 2

[Text] With regard to the series of press conferences of the PDPA Central Committee, recently a press conference was held at the palace of the Foreign Ministry where certain aspects of the economic policies of the PDPA and the fundamental postures of social and economic development and growth of the DRA for the years 1365-1369 [21 March 1986 - 20 March 1987 to 21 March 1990 - 20 March 1991] were discussed. Some members of the Party's Central Committee, those of the Council of Ministers, responsible officials of the relevant organs and several foreign and domestic journalists were also present at this conference. Following is the text of the conference:

At the beginning of this press conference Niaz Mohammad Mumand, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee talked about the role and significance of fundamental socio-economic growth and said: The 19th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee with a scientific and critical analysis of past developments and the planning of the needed reconstruction of the country, has helped to expedite and enrich the rate of economic growth of our nation.

The essence of the socio-economic tasks for the next five years consist of implementing the projected policy of the PDPA to combat our economic and technical backwardness and enhancing the material and cultural living conditions of the people based on the reconstruction of non-active institutions and creation of new productive establishments, expediting the rate of growth of all the sectors of the national economy--first and foremost the government sector and cooperatives--to ensure the principle of the public ownership, attracting all forms of commercial and economic enterprises in the monetary and goods exchange fields for a public-oriented market.

Some of the fundamental characteristics of the socio-economic growth of the DRA for the years 1365-1369 include:

First, the general volume of investment during the next five years has been predicted to reach 114.5 billion afghanis and that of government investment to approach 113 billion afghanis. In the composition of the government investment 89.5 billion afghanis have been considered for the implementation of development projects.

Furthermore, for the implementation of development projects an amount of 50 billion afghanis will be invested from domestic sources and the remainder will

be secured from the loans and assistance of friendly nations, particularly the brotherly and friendly country of the USSR. The share of the Soviet Union comprises more than 70 percent of total foreign aid extended to Afghanistan. During the next five years the implementation of more than 130 important projects in the entire national economy fields, with the technical and economic assistance of the Soviet Union have been foreseen.

Second, the proportionate economic ratio between various fields and sectors will be maintained. The total investment for the implementation of the projects has been distributed in such a way that the share of farming and irrigation will be 12 percent, that of mines, industry and energy 43.5 percent, transportation and communications 14 percent and finally that of social services will be 31 percent.

Although the general volume of the private sector's investment for the next five years had been considered to be about 1.5 billion afghanis, the available statistics show that for the current year alone, until now, in 54 private sector's projects more than 800 million afghanis have been invested which in itself confirms the correctness of our Party's policy in this regard.

Our Party makes use of every possible effort to ensure the swift growth of all the sectors, whether government, mixed, cooperative or private. However, the main thrust of the growth will be directed toward the government and cooperative sectors--the very basis of our country's future economy.

Third, the fundamental socio-economic directions of the DRA will be made clear. Here the principal task involves prompt elimination of backwardness in the area of training, secondary and higher vocational education, public health and education, growth of the literacy movement and improvement of work and living conditions of the hardworking people, based on the growth and strengthening of the national economy, increasing production and effective productivity with regard to material goods. It is intended that the raise in work output in material productivity will be secured at between 25-30 percent. Likewise, for the purpose of securing rapid growth in the social area and enhancing the material and moral level of the public's life in 1369 [21 March 1990 - 20 March 1991] in comparison to 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986], the consumption funds will be increased by 155.14 percent, reaching a total of 126 billion afghanis.

Fourth, the projected tasks toward a fundamental socio-economic growth of the DRA are quite intensive. For instance, if during the last 5-year: 1360- 1364 [21 March 1981 - 20 March 1982 to 21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] the national revenue was 11 percent, the volume of industrial production was 28 percent and that of agricultural production was only 4.7 percent, during the next 5-year: 1365-1369, the aforementioned indices have been considered to reach 26 percent, 38 percent and 14-16 percent respectively.

The attainment of these goals has to be achieved under the presence of the evil feudal bequests of the past, damages incurred as a result of the counterrevolu-

tionary banditry, economic impediments and encumbrances of the imperialist nations and the irresponsible, bureaucratic attitude of the responsible officials in charge of the restoration and recovery of a productive economy and completion of the nation's economy mechanism.

At the recent Political Bureau meeting the trade and commerce status of the country was also investigated and certain decisions toward better reorganization of our commerce were reached. Furthermore, at the same meeting it was decided that for the completion of a planning system, securing of the unity of the central and regional plans and enhancement of the role and the responsibilities of the local organs toward implementing and coordinating the plans and local budgets, during the current year planning commissions to be created in some of the provinces while the same procedure should be generalized for the entire country in the coming year.

Moreover, the results of the realization of the socio-economic growth, on a quarterly basis was investigated at the Political Bureau's meeting, and a school for improving the professional and technical skills of the workers of large establishments in the city of Kabul was also created. In a like fashion, the complicated issue of financial, credit and trust systems and their improvement were also investigated and certain changes are going to be put into effect to better and enrich the chances of these systems. In securing the completion of the economic mechanism a series of laws and regulations such as labor laws, monetary and banking laws, investment laws, etc. have been taken into consideration.

In order to encourage and support the private sector and enhance its role in the growth of national economy, particular attention will be given to the improvement of the work of Advisory Economic Councils, Commerce and Industry Chambers, etc. The PDPA Central Committee pays serious attention to the matter of work procedure and style of various cadres.

The most important components of work style is the enhancement of the level of demands, increasing the level of responsibility, broadening the level of criticism and self-improvement and intensifying the control of the people and their work habits. The PDPA Central Committee intends, in the near future, to create a School of Economic Management for the top-ranking employees of the Party and the government. To this end, scientific and practical conferences, under the title of Party plans for the people will be held, and methodical books on Party leadership will be prepared.

Thereafter, the responsible official of the PDPA Central Committee's economic branch in answer to a question from the representative of HAIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR with regard to the role of the PDPA leadership in resolving the socio-economic problems, stated: With due regard to the national characteristic of the democratic Sawr revolution, the PDPA has taken a new course and plan of action into consideration toward the economic growth of the country.



According to the new course and objectives of the fundamental directions for socio-economic growth of the DRA during the next 5-year plans the growth of the government economy and cooperative sectors will be much faster. It is planned to increase the volume of national income from 11 to 26 percent, that of industrial products to 38 percent and the Gross Agricultural Product will be raised between 14 to 16 percent. These figures indicate that the PDPA has great tasks ahead of it.

The Party's Central Committee and its affiliated committees at various localities are going to pursue new leadership methods and courses of action toward the social and economic growth of the country. Some of the most significant of these measures would include: Raising the level of responsibility of the leadership cadres and providing proper training in order to better prepare them to perform their duties in the area of economic planning and administration of the national economy, permanent attention to the selection and shifting of the cadres, maintaining discipline and awareness, enhancing their sense of response, holding regular competitions to enrich the work quality as envisioned by the resolutions of the 19th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. Furthermore, they will make every effort to insure a harmonious and unified cooperation toward achieving a rapid national economy in implementing the fundamental socio-economic goals of the DRA according to the needs and prevailing circumstances of the revolution throughout the country.

Mohammad Aziz, deputy director of the Council of Ministers and head of Government Planning Committee in answer to a question by PAMIR correspondent with regard to the damages and destructions caused by the undeclared war of the imperialists to the national economy, said: As a result of the undeclared war by the imperialists, about 40 billion afghanis of damage have been inflicted on our country, and as a result of destructive actions of counterrevolutionaries more than 2,000 schools have been destroyed; likewise, many mosques, shrines, hospitals and other public facilities have been destroyed.

While enduring great losses, the government intends to rebuild and revive the destroyed institutions during the 5-year plan.

The minister of commerce in answer to a question by BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY representative regarding the practical mechanism for the financial and legal support of the private entrepreneurs and the role of the national capitalists in the growth and strengthening of the national economy said: According to the policies of the Party and the government, our private entrepreneurs are very active in the various fields of commerce throughout the country.

Through financial and legal assistance, the government practically supports these individuals and it also intends to expand the level of these measures during the next five years in order to help the growth and expansion of activities of the entrepreneurs. To this end, until now, conferring trade licenses to citizens, participation of this group in commercial agreements between Afghanistan and other countries, extending credits and other forms of financial assistance have comprised part of the government support for these individuals. As a result,

the role of our national capitalists in the social and economic growth and development of the country has been very positive and praiseworthy and the government likewise extends its assistance whenever needed.

The deputy director of the Council of Ministers in answer to a question by the Radio-TV representative concerning the role of the 5-year plan in strengthening the government sector and the multi-faceted economy said: Much attention has been paid to the government sector in the fundamental aspects of the social and economic growth, similarly many kinds of investments in various government sectors such as agriculture, industry, transportation and commerce have been made. During the next five years the value of the government agricultural products will reach 430 million afghanis--which in comparison to the five previous years shows a two-fold increase.

In a similar fashion, new investments will be made in the sector of gas industries, and food and light industries which will subsequently raise the growth rate of government industry to 56.2 percent. During the 5-year plan period the value of industrial products will reach 27.5 billion afghanis and 13 billion afghanis will be invested in the sector of gas industries. Moreover, investments by the government sector in the retail industry during the next five years will be increased from 47.9 percent in 1369 to a level reaching 31 billion afghanis of which the share of the Ministry of Commerce will be 70 percent.

The minister of commerce in answer to a question by the ANIS correspondent with regard to an increase in the retail business of the government and mixed sectors and that of the cooperatives and the expansion of the material and technical base of commerce said: Since government commerce expansion is a properly planned venture, realization of an increase of 1.5 over and above the projected plans is not unrealistic. The government's attention toward the expansion of commerce and cooperative venture is an important factor and similarly securing the proper cadres for such establishments, allocation of fixed capital which has been duly considered in the plan are also some of other basic significant measures.

The minister of transport in answer to a question by HEYWAD correspondent regarding government's assistance to the private transport sector and government sector's participation in the transportation industry and the Soviet Union's assistance stated: During the years after the advent of the revolution extensive assistance has been extended to the private sector by the government. Such assistance includes conferring of letters of appreciation, presentation of presents and prizes to successful transport establishments, providing adequate security on the highways to thwart the robbery of the counterrevolutionaries, extending financial aid to those individuals who have suffered losses, and providing technical service to interested people, on easy terms. Moreover, in the current 5-year plan certain decisions with regard to the protection and support of the private transport sector have been made. Some of these include: The creation of equipped technical workshops and production and availability of oil and spare parts at low prices and on easy terms to the aforesaid sector. As a result of

the government's attention, the income level of the private transport sector, which was 71 million afghanis in 1357 [21 March 1978 - 20 March 1979], has now reached 134 million afghanis. In a like fashion, the total transported tonnage of 1357, which stood at 1,074,000 tons in 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] reached 11,782,000 tons. In our country, after the advent of the Sawr revolution the government transport sector was created through the assistance of our great northern neighbor, the Soviet Union, and in the first phase that government put 1,500 trucks gratis at our disposal--the total value of those trucks is 3.45 billion afghanis. As a result of this aid various transport establishments were created in Kabul and other provinces.

The role of the assistance of the brotherly Soviet Union in strengthening the government's transport sector is of significant importance and during the current 5-year plan this sector will further expand and increase its technical service assistance.

The minister of agriculture and land reform in answer to a question by the DEHQAN correspondent concerning the actual participation of the Farmers' Councils in implementing the land and water reform stated: The Farmers' Councils, which until now have been created in 1,065 villages throughout the country, are very active in implementing the land reform program.

These councils provide extensive opportunity to our farmers for participating in the land reform process, social changes and fulfilling the ideals of the Sawr revolution. The results of the activities of these councils indicate that not only our farmers partake in the social activities but that there is also favorable opportunities for our farmers to avail themselves of the government's agricultural assistance and thus achieve greater success in enhancing the level of farm products, irrigation affairs and resolve their problems with regard to mechanization of their farming.

These councils can, through the expansion of their activities, lead and mobilize our hardworking farmers toward successful realization of the first 5-year plan after the advent of the revolution. To this end, every effort is made to further buttress and develop the Farmers' Councils in various localities.

The minister of mines and industries in answer to a question by the representative of DERAFSH-E JAVANAN with regard to the role of the Labor and Construction Brigades of the Democratic Organization of Afghan Youth during the 5-year plan stated: The creation of the Labor and Construction Brigades after the victory of the Sawr revolution in our country has been regarded as a significant step.

With regard to this fact, the Ministry of Mines and Industries places great importance on the part of the Democratic Organization of Afghan Youth and the Labor Brigades as well. Right now, in the first year of the 5-year plan many of these brigades are active in various production institutions with their members working alongside the workers of the said establishments.

It is for this reason that the Labor and Construction Brigades of the Youth and the group volunteer work of the members of the Democratic Organization of Afghan Youth toward realization of the economic programs of the country and a rapid implementation of the fundamental social and economic growth of our country is of utmost importance and their activity is regarded to be very positive.

12719

CSO: 4665/3

RETAIL STORES EXPANDING IN GOVERNMENT SECTOR

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 6 Sep 86 p 2

[Text] Based on the policy of the Party and the revolutionary government which always keeps the convenience and welfare of the hardworking people of the country in mind, in the second half of 1363 [21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985], within the framework of the Ministry of Commerce the Retail Trade Department was established in order to stabilize prices, prevent their rise, create a healthy competition with the non-governmental retail stores and help the families by providing and offering their needed merchandise. Right now, this department administers 27 retail stores and 78 sugar stores in and around the city of Kabul.

An official of the Retail Trade Department while making the above statement also said: In addition to the 27 retail stores which are active throughout the city of Kabul and offer more than 400 different kinds of merchandise to the people, there are also two retail stores each active in the Balkh and Parvan provinces which are serving the respectable inhabitants of those localities. Likewise, the modern department store of Jalalabad which is a two-story building, will be open very soon. Furthermore, the construction of other department stores in the Konarha Province and the subprovince of Khost are also under way which most probably will become operational by the end of the current year and will be ready to offer their merchandise for sale to the inhabitants of the region.

The above-stated source further added: The same way that during the years after the advent of the revolution with the introduction of the 5-year plans beneficial changes have been made in each and every vital area for the good of the general public, the Retail Trade Department will likewise continue its efforts to establish more retail stores throughout the provinces. To this end, construction work on two such stores in the district of Seyyed Karam [Paktia Province] and in the city of Mitarlam [the capital of Laghman Province] has already begun and will soon become operational.

As regards the plans of commercial activities of the Retail Trade Department during the previous and current years, the aforementioned source said: The current year's trade activities of the said department has reached 1.7 billion afghanis of which 287 million afghanis belong to the first quarter alone. The previous year's trade activities reached a total of 1.456 billion afghanis which by the end of the year showed a 0.4 percent increase over the projected plan.

Here it should be noted that all the goods which are offered for sale by the government retail stores are 10 to 15 percent lower in price than the comparable

market value. The Retail Trade Department has been able to provide for the true and essential needs of the people and has expanded its activities to buy merchandise from other private sectors' commercial centers and offer them for sale to the general public through government retail stores, with only five percent markup.

On the other hand, during the last two years the price of some of the imported essential needs has gone up rapidly which has created a profitable market for the private sector.

Here many questions come to mind. Why, for instance does the Retail Trade Department not directly take action to import those essential goods? Why doesn't this organ and other government commercial organs focus on more serious issues instead of importing luxury items? Why don't they initiate similar actions as the one in 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] in regard to the sale of toilet tissue and its price which was stabilized throughout the market? And why has the Retail Trade Department limited its initiation to only a few items alone!

It would be much better for the Retail Trade Department and other government commercial establishments to go to the people and gather facts and figures with regard to the essential needs of the general public. Such actions will prevent the piling up of goods in the warehouses and at the same time decrease the stagnation of capital, and on the other hand while affecting the current market price of goods, the people will be able to get their essential needs at more reasonable prices.

12719

CSO: 4665/3



## BRIEFS

HARYANA CABINET CHANGES--Chandigarh, Dec 6--The Haryana chief minister, Mr Banshi Lal, today expanded his ministry by inducting six more ministers, two of Cabinet rank and four ministers of state. The new ministers were sworn in by the governor, Mr S.M.H. Burney, at a simple ceremony in the Raj Bhavan here this evening. The strength of the ministry has now risen to 20. While the new Cabinet ministers are Mr Amar Singh and Mr Thhab Hussain, the ministers of state are Mr Jagdi Nehra, Mr Chamandass Arora, Mrs Kartar Devi and Mr Om Parekh. With this expansion, which comes six months after Mr Banshi Lal took over as chief minister, all districts in the state, except Sonapat, have been represented in the Cabinet. Talking to newsmen after the swearing in ceremony, Mr Banshi Lal said the ministry had been expanded after consultations with the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. He had met the Prime Minister in Delhi yesterday. [Text] [Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 7 Dec 86 p 4] /8309

CSO: 4600/1294

## IRAN

### WEST'S 'PROPAGANDA COUNTERATTACK' DISCUSSED

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Dec 86 pp 1, 14

[Text] The mass media of the Western countries, which are in the first stages after the miserable event of the unsuccessful, even defeated, trip of McFarlane to Iran and his deportation from this country and have engaged in confusing statements, having unwittingly spoken explicitly of the failure of U.S. foreign policy and implicitly of the victory of Iran, have for some time now changed their tone and method and chosen another central issue to speak about.

It is quite apparent that the superficial, convenient democracy of the West has opportunities for pretense to a certain limited extent in the area of the mass media. Whenever the mass media cross the limits, they are immediately controlled, harnessed, and made to follow a set line, and the initial confusion which reflects the existing confusion and differences between the rival political and economic factors turns into some sort of harmony and coordination in terms of the essential lines and principles.

From the initial statements and writings, the humiliation suffered by the U.S. governing body due to the Iran event would be and has been exposed. But through the imposition of a calculated policy, which indicates the closeness of the rival factions in the area of common issues and interests, gradually the main focus of Western propaganda changed and the news and propaganda gradually moved from its initial focus, which was in fact the main, even the only, focus of recent events, to another totally fabricated focus.

The Western mass media and the official and unofficial authorities now try to speak constantly about the issue as the export of arms to Iran, to verify and deny this issue, and to drag it to the right and left to such an extent that finally public opinion is focused on this issue and the mistaken notion is inculcated that, in any case and any event, something happened and the United States and Iran had relations, particularly in the area of the military and weapons. Hence, it can be said that the Westerners have engaged in a vengeful propaganda counterattack with regard to the sudden Iranian attack.

The U.S. Congress questions the officials of the White House, or as the imam calls it, the Black House, as to why they have given weapons to the terrorists. The U.S. officials spread the news that a great amount of the

money they received for the sale of arms was given to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. One or two Soviet government military officials, too, have taken advantage of the situation and in speeches and interviews have said: What was behind the scenes has been exposed and U.S. aid has resulted in the death of this and that person!

In the meantime, the retired, bankrupt and worn out political factions--such as the hypocrites and their former ally, Bani-Sadr, his majesty Reza Shah the Great II, and the like--have tuned their broken instruments once again and are trying to use this American felt to make a hat for themselves. It is heard that Bani-Sadr, as usual, has given 153 reasons, and has said that Iran imports weapons through the Mafia and exports heroin instead!

No one asks those who make such claims and the Western media that if this is really the case and if they want to say that Iran is with the United States, then why do they say in the meantime, "Reagan's Cabinet allowed Iran to ridicule the United States"? This is the exact statement that the WASHINGTON POST used, and similar statements were spoken and written by other members of the mass media. This is another interpretation of the statement that was expressed on 13 Aban [4 November] by the speaker of the Majlis in a gathering of university and high school students, which was regarded to be incredible. On that day, the speaker of the Majlis made the following statement: Those who consider the United States to be always alert, clever and dominant over political affairs and cannot imagine that the United States, despite all its material power, experience, technology, intelligence and military equipment and despite all its experienced, well-traveled politicians, might be defeated by an apparently small, oppressed nation and country, a group of Muslims in the political and nonpolitical arena, must now note and see how some of our arms dealers and our officials have deceived and played with the Americans.

Those who ridiculed Iran were skillfully able, in what has been termed a relatively long process, to create the idea in their minds and make it appear real that many of the officials and the people of Iran are tired of the duration of the revolution and struggle and of the economic shortages and confusion--particularly after the success of the conspiracy to severely reduce the price of oil--and they have given up the fight against imperialism and global oppressors and are looking for the right excuse and opportunity to reestablish relations with the United States with a step-by-step policy and to gradually reconstruct and rebuild what has been destroyed!

They even went further and had led them to believe that a particular faction has formed in the governing body which supports economic and political liberalism, defends economic freedom, an open market, and an open-door policy, and is prepared to see the good intentions of the United States in action, to see in practice that the United States is not the enemy but a friend! Then, making use of U.S. assistance, it would prepare a sort of political and economic change in the form of a creeping coup d'etat or similar form!

That is why in his initial defense, when responding to the reporter, Reagan said in a stunned and disappointed tone:

"You are again raising a question that I cannot answer(!) But believe me(!) we had information(!) that led us to believe(!) that there are factions in Iran, and many of them realize that sooner or later a change will occur in the government(!) and there is discontentment among the people(!)"

Therefore, it can be said that the actions of the United States were motivated by interference in order to prepare the grounds for some sort of rebellion and coup d'etat against the regime as well. Because of such analyses and understanding and reliance on evidence of this sort, some of the mediators were able to deceive the U.S. contacts and make them believe that if they were to come to Tehran, they would be welcomed with open arms and that the risk was worth it! They came, but instead of open arms (as [ESHPIGO] showed), they faced a political kick!

10,000

CSO: 4640/45

MINISTER OF ISLAMIC GUIDANCE ON CULTURAL ACTIVITIES ABROAD

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 18 Oct 86 p 3

[Interview with Minister of Islamic Guidance Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami by reporters in Bakhtaran Province; date not specified]

[Text] Bakhtaran, KEYHAN correspondent. Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami, the minister of Islamic guidance, accompanied by several directors general of this ministry, arrived in Bakhtaran Province to visit the western fronts. He responded in a press conference to the questions of reporters concerning the role of propaganda in the course of the revolution, propaganda war, legal dealings using global standards in regards to cultural activities abroad, the procedure for the implementation of the press law, the government's reaction in regards to the attack on the book pavilion of the Islamic Republic in West Germany, and the statements of the imam regarding not weakening the government.

First, in regards to the role of propaganda in the course of the Islamic revolution, the minister of Islamic guidance said: Today, world propaganda is one of the most important bases of power for a government. In many respects, propaganda power is more useful and has more capabilities than military power. For this reason, the oppressive, Zionist forces greatly wish to gain news sources, to dominate the mass media, and to influence worldwide news agencies. Today, we find few news and propaganda organizations that are independent. They are either essentially controlled by oppressors and Zionists or they are greatly influenced by their propaganda. Furthermore, many of the reactionary powers that are dependent on the East and West try to place a significant amount of their open and secret budgets in the service of the propaganda which is in the interest of their false policies.

He added: The Islamic revolution as a new phenomenon has not only threatened all the oppressors in the world and quelled the interests of the superpowers in Iran as well, but it has also created a new movement against oppression.

For this reason, we see that since the beginning of the formation of the revolution, a very expansive conspiracy and propaganda attack against the Islamic revolution and Islam have begun in the world. Of course, we realize that the more we see these attacks expand, the better we realize the greatness of our revolution. If we rely on materials and advanced tools and resources in fighting these attacks, we will lose. And, since they have not only a great deal of material power but also advanced technology. Also, the dependent governments of the world place all their resources at their disposal.

Then, emphasizing that our propaganda war is like a military war, the minister of guidance added: In the military war, too, we do not rely on advanced tools. Of course, we try to obtain as much as possible. Given the fact that we face all the powers who have technology and the embargoes that the oppressors have imposed against us throughout the world, it is hard for us to obtain weapons. This shortage has resulted in our engaging in great domestic initiatives and inventions in the area of tools. But, in any case, our reliance in this war is on the power of the faith of our nation. In fact, our war is a war between faith and technology. I must say that on one side, there are material resources and technology, but there is no faith. On the other side, there is a great deal of faith and God's promise that God will make victorious those who support Him and work for Him. Supporting God means not relying on anyone but God. And we see this power and miracle in our own time. As we see, despite all the support that is given the regime of Saddam from the East and the West in material, economic, military and propaganda terms, the Islamic Republic is becoming stronger and more stable every day.

Then, in regards to making use of the resources of the Islamic Republic in legal dealings, following global standards, he said: In the Ministry of Islamic Guidance, in the area of propaganda, the resources of the central office of the domestic press and publications and the foreign media are used. We have two kinds of cultural attaches abroad, whose mission is to bring the message of the revolution to the various nations. He added: In 18 countries, we have more than 30 cultural agents. In accordance with the ratification of the Cabinet, four other agencies have also been added. These agencies are responsible for holding various ceremonies, distributing pamphlets and publications, offering and showing films, and establishing various classes, particularly to teach the Persian language, through which the message of the revolution is exported abroad.

Emphasizing that more important than all these resources is the presence of the people on the scene, responding to the propaganda ruse of the enemy, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami said: At the same time, we publish 7 magazines in various languages of the world, with a circulation of 60,000, and this year the resources for showing good and mediocre films will be well utilized. We must also point out that even our weak films can be more attractive for the nation than the strong films made by the global oppressors.

Then, concerning the implementation of the press law, the implemental bylaws, and the formation of the committee for supervision of the press, he said: The press law was ratified late last year by the Majlis and preparations were made



immediately for its implementation. The supervisory committee was formed with the participation of the representatives of the Majlis, the supreme judicial council, the minister of culture and higher education, directors of the press, and the minister of Islamic guidance. Even though a month is still left before the deadline, the bylaws are ready to be submitted to the Cabinet.

Then, in connection with the procedure for the implementation of the press law, he said: In the initial stage, the press must conform itself to the present conditions of the society, and in this connection, once every few weeks their files will be examined regularly.

He added: Every law has its weak and strong points. We will try to correct the shortcomings in the course of implementing it with a single article.

Then, in regards to the establishment of the organization for the preservation of cultural heritage, the minister of Islamic guidance said:

In order to avoid lack of coordination, this organization was formed under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education. Its implemental bylaws were also ratified in the cultural committee of the Cabinet.

Continuing this interview, in the area of the government of the Islamic Republic dealing seriously with the attack on the book pavilion in West Germany, he said: Certainly, our reaction stems from a position of power. We respond in like manner to the way that we are treated. We try, as far as possible, to have sound commercial, cultural and political relations with other countries. In like manner, they should not ignore our principles.

The government of West Germany is one of the capitalist societies which may not be very happy with us. We believe that if we stand firmly and decisively, they will upgrade their relations with us.

In the same connection, he added: In regards to the attack of the counterrevolutionaries on the book pavilion of the Islamic Republic, we took steps through diplomatic channels and summoning the political representative of that country in Tehran as well as in West Germany. But it must not go unsaid that this action shows the weakness of the German government in terms of its claim of freedom of ideas. The Islamic Republic of Iran is tolerant insofar as its values, principles and beliefs are not threatened. And we do not forget anything in order to retrieve our rights and prove our identity. They must know and realize that the Islamic Republic is strong, is here to stay, and has a healthy mind to govern sound relations.

Then, in connection with the message of the imam of the nation to avoid weakening the government and on the role of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance in this area, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami said: The statements of the imam were directed towards the movements that are trying to weaken the government, a government that in six years has had the heavy burden of the war alongside the people, has been a powerful presence on the political, military and cultural scenes, and, in terms of security, is shoulder-to-shoulder with various countries.

In conclusion, he added: In this situation, those who weaken the government will be prevented. At the same time, proper sound, constructive criticism will be supported.

Based on another report, the minister of Islamic guidance and the accompanying group continued their visit to Bakhtaran. In a meeting held with the director general and the personnel of the central office of Islamic guidance in Bakhtaran, he pointed out the problems and difficulties of this office.

According to the report by our correspondent, in this session, first Nafisi, the director general of Islamic guidance of Bakhtaran, presented a report on the activities of this office. Then Hojjat ul-Islam Khatami made a speech.

In the conclusion of this meeting, the problems and issues were raised by those present and the minister of Islamic guidance responded to each.

Also, continuing his visit in Bakhtaran, Hojjat ul-Islam Khatami met and spoke with Hojjat ul-Islam Farandi, the representative of the imam and the Friday imam of Bakhtaran.

This report also indicates that in this meeting, the issues and problems of the province were examined and discussed.

10,000

CSO: 4648/53

OFFICIAL DETAILS ECONOMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS, ACTIVITIES

Tehran RESALAT in Persian 8 Nov 86 p 8

[Interview with Haj Seyyed Taqi Khamushi, director of the Islamic economic agency, by RESALAT; date and place not specified]

[Text] The Islamic economic agency is one of the unrecognized yet very active agencies that has been serving the oppressed and faithful people for years. In order to become more familiar with this nonprofit agency and to fulfill our mission, we are following the revered Imam's statement: Tell the people about whatever you do. In this regard, we hold an interview with Haj Seyyed Taqi Khamushi, the director of the Islamic economic agency, which follows.

RESALAT: Please tell us, what is the goal of establishing these funds, and the organization itself in particular?

[Answer] I am very happy to speak with my dear brothers. You have taken steps to publicize some of the goals of these funds through your respected media. The first interest-free fund was established in 1345 [21 March 1966-20 March 1967] in the Javid Lorzadeh reserves, which collected charities. After one year, giving interest-free loans to individuals who met the requirements began and, finally, by forming a board of directors, the interest-free fund was active two hours a day with one employee in a small location. After three and a half years of fighting the tyrant's organization, it was registered.

Because this was a popular idea and the people enthusiastically welcomed it, today we witness a vast movement of the people in establishing such funds. At the present time, more than 1,500 funds are active throughout the country. However, the organization became official in 1358 [21 March 1979-20 March 1980]. The interest-free funds brought about the idea of establishing an Islamic bank for the Islamic Republic. The establishment of an Islamic bank was in the application and appointment process when we suddenly faced the nationalization of banks throughout the country, when the Revolution Council declared the nationalization of the banks. The transitional government told us that legally it could not allow the activity

of the private sector to establish an Islamic bank. Hence, after consultations at the time, the imam said that we should agree with the government, which we did. Subsequently, it became an Islamic bank and we changed the article concerning the bank being a profit-making organization giving interest to the shareholders, thereby changing it to a nonprofit organization, which ultimately became the Islamic economic agency of Iran. The agency then arranged a gathering of all the funds throughout the country and invited the national authorities. Fortunately, this two-day gathering became the source of a new movement. That is, the economic agency was to take over the interest-free funds and support and direct them in order to prevent waste and to resolve their problems, and then, in an organized movement, to guide them in a single direction. Today, we witness that the interest-free loan funds are well organized throughout the country.

RESALAT: Now, tell us briefly about the activities of the agency.

[Answer] The first thing that the Islamic economic agency did was coordinate the funds. Secondly, it tried to standardize the forms and suggest that this be done. The agency itself took the first step. At the present, the needs of the funds that are handled by the agency, except for the changes in names, are all uniform. Among other accomplishments is the creation of an auditing unit to carefully audit the funds. You must realize that if a financial organization is not precise in its auditing and accounting, it cannot be considered a financial establishment. Another issue was creating coordination among the funds throughout the country. This unit holds a meeting once every three months and announces the next day all the reports discussed in the meeting. This coordinating unit is comprised of the boards of directors of credited Tehran funds, consisting of about 30 persons, the number of whom will probably increase in the future.

This coordination unit travels to various areas of the country once every two months to meet with the boards of directors, to see their problems first hand, and to report the results to us. Then, in accordance with the bylaws, we try to eliminate the problems. If the funds are within the framework of the bylaws, we endorse them one hundred percent. Of course, we have an objective in doing so. The agency has said that our mission in the provinces and large cities has been relatively fulfilled, but our mission in the villages has not begun yet. We must transfer the resources from the cities to our beloved villagers. In other words, we must reduce the consumer loans in the cities and mobilize our capabilities to support our dear farmers. Then we will be able to place the consumer loans for production at the service of villagers. I dare say that we have been very successful. We have decided on four kinds of loans and have ranked them according to priority. Agricultural loans are given the highest priority, then animal husbandry loans, then handicraft and rural industries loans, and finally occasional and seasonal loans, such as for fires, destruction, flood and other catastrophes. In this regard, various steps have been taken and loans are given to our dear villagers during the sowing season to procure seeds, fertilizer, pesticides and agricultural equipment, which will be paid back after harvest.

RESALAT: Please tell us how many funds are under your jurisdiction and tell us briefly about their activities.

[Answer] Late in 1358 [21 March 1979-20 March 1980], when we began our work, about 85 percent of the interest-free loan funds reported to us. About 800 funds throughout the country are in constant contact with us and give us monthly reports. When any one of them requests a loan, we have three kinds of loans that we place at their disposal. Here, I must say that the Islamic economic agency only gives loans to the interest-free loan funds and does not give loans to individuals at all (except for emergency loans to help some establishments). Therefore, our work is clearly with the funds. One thing that can be said is that we gathered statistics last year on more than 500 funds. In the course of one year, they distributed 52 billion rials in loans. This year's statistics show that more than 800 funds have reached us. Please note that our relations with the funds extends from the borders of the country to the funds in the cities, and within the Tehran city limits. Thank God, we are supervising all of them. Of course, it must not go unsaid that some funds which report to us every month have indirect relations with us.

RESALAT: Haj Aqa Khamushi, please tell us: What steps have the agencies taken towards economic and agricultural self-sufficiency?

[Answer] In 1363 [21 March 1984-20 March 1985], Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, the deputy of the leader, made recommendations in the area of agricultural self-sufficiency. Ultimately, the agency began to think about agricultural self-sufficiency. Essentially, it is clear to everyone that if a country is dependent in terms of foodstuff, it will become dependent, that we must certainly take steps towards agricultural self-sufficiency in the area of foodstuff. The agency, with the network of funds that it has at its disposal, began a movement. We wrote a letter to Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis, which he presented to the Supreme Economic Council. We wanted to create service units for mechanized agriculture alongside the interest-free loan funds. When we had such machinery at our disposal, we wanted to make it available to the farmers. This was approved. You might ask why the funds took on this task. We did so because, in this regard, the funds have three advantages: (1) They have the resources for economic circulation; (2) they are not concerned with making a profit, hence they can bring down prices and keep them at a moderate level; and (3) they have a very strong relationship with the society and can make use of the resources of the society for this movement. In 1363 [21 March 1984-20 March 1985], we officially began this task in these areas. By late 1364 [21 March 1985-20 March 1986], we had 31 agricultural units and 283 machinery units. The statistics turned out to be very interesting, even beyond our imaginations. We achieved six or seven positive points. (1) The first thing is that we changed personal agricultural machinery into a kind of taxi, so that every farmer could make use of it. (2) The second point is that we gathered statistics from every station (comparative statistics), statistics that were of course taken from our operations, which we sent to all the authorities: the office of the president, the prime minister, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the concerned organizations. (3) The third point was the cutting of prices. Anywhere that we entered in planting, we cut the prices 40 to 60 percent. In the area of

harvesting, the figures were much greater than 40 percent: in some areas, for small plots of land, up to one-sixth of the price. Before we entered into market activities, small, two-hectare plots of land were inoperable and were not harvested. Previously, in Shahr-e Rey, Tehran, the cost of harvesting 1 hectare of land was 35,000-40,000 rials. We purchased it and harvested it for 7,000 rials. In other words, we changed the 40,000 rials to 7,000 rials.

(4) Another point that we achieved was security in agriculture, with healthy competition. In other words, with every station that we created, we installed a sign indicating that this place was a center for agricultural services which farmers could go to for services at any time. Of course, we are at the beginning of the road and we must expand this task to the extent that we are able. But at the existing level, agricultural security and healthy competition have been created. Along with this, there are other sectors that are active and must conform themselves to our movement. The results have usually been good in the regions. Hence, we have had very interesting statistics in the course of this year of extraordinary accomplishments. For example, we leveled 4,000 hectares of land with 25 stations. In terms of agriculture, 4,000 hectares is a rather large figure, which indicates a good movement. If this task is strengthened in future years, a great deal of land can be cultivated. (5) Another point is that the 31 stations have become 60, and in the near future we will have 70 or 80 stations. In other words, they have doubled in the six to seven months of our activities. Fortunately, the letters that are sent to the concerned offices have made our activities more significant and opened the way for us. (6) In this area, there has not been a great deal of money in cultivation and agriculture so far. We are very happy with this operation, the long-term goal of which favors the oppressed. In other words, those who have agricultural resources have nothing to do with our organization. We help those individuals who have no resources in terms of machinery and mechanized equipment. For example, a large machine and a tractor serviced half a hectare of land and we only collected 400 rials for it. (Of course, in Khorasan Province, we see that a large agricultural machine and tractor serviced half a hectare of land and 400 to 800 rials was received in wages. We have a great deal of this type of statistics from Khorasan Province that we can offer.)

RESALAT: Please explain about the activities of the agency and the affiliated funds on the front and behind the front.

[Answer] Of course, when the Imam said everyone must go to the front and help, the agency decided to expand its movement and mobilize the resources in this direction. Hence, it formed a committee from the coordination unit of the Islamic economic agency of Iran to carry out this task, called the headquarters for supporting the war. Then it created a committee for the war out of the coordination unit and this committee invited all the authorities of the funds in Tehran to join. The first convoy that it sent to the front included light and heavy machinery. You saw how large this convoy was; even the world mass media objected to it. Since then, in order to familiarize the authorities with their duties in regards to the war, the agency invited the authorities of the funds to three meetings.



Now, some of our dear people say: The interest-free loan funds have no money to give to the front; this money belongs to the people. They are right in saying so, but it is not the people's money which is being donated. The board of directors invites others to donate their own and other people's money. It has nothing to do with the funds at all. It is the organization that operates the funds that created this. It takes in money from itself and others. The founding committees, the boards of directors, and the boards of regents of the funds themselves make investments and solicit others to donate money. With this money, machines and other equipment are purchased and sent to the front. Therefore, we announce here and now that the funds do not religiously have the right to give any of the people's money to the fronts.

[Question] In your speech in Hamadan, you announced that several interest-free loan funds are supposed to be opened abroad. Please explain this.

[Answer] Of course, we thought that along with our work, we should pack up our tools and spread to other countries. At the present, negotiations have taken place in at least six countries. We will be involved in organizing them, God willing, in countries including Pakistan and India, where activities have begun to some extent.

RESALAT: Now that the banks operate with Islamic methods, why do you find it necessary to have the interest-free loan funds?

[Answer] This is a very interesting question, and it has been raised by many people. We say that, despite the Islamization of the banks, not only must the interest-free loan funds exist, but they must even be strengthened. One of the goals of the Islamization of the banks is to give interest-free loans to the oppressed people on a large scale throughout the society. This can only be accomplished by such funds, through the vast network of the people. Now, I will give you a few reasons, briefly. The first reason is that the banks direct activities from above; that is, the collection and distribution of money is regulated for them by the law. This is not so with the funds. The people themselves direct the collection and distribution of the funds. I will give you an example: Suppose someone is ill, with a prescription in his hand, and needs an operation. The cost of the operation would be 150,000 rials. He enters the bank and says: Sir, here is my prescription; this is for my operation . . . He is told that there is no law according to which a loan can be given to him, which is true, because the law has not anticipated such a situation. But the board of directors serve as the laws for the interest-free loan funds. They sit down immediately and say that this problem is important and crucial, and he must be paid the amount as an emergency right away. The banks cannot operate this way. The second issue is that banks can only give loans to individuals with valid deeds. Where can the lower strata of the society, the oppressed, who have no such deeds, since they rent their houses, who work in the private sector, and who have no official documents or work permits, go? These funds operate for individuals who have no valid financial deeds; their guarantors do it for God. The point that the interest-free loan funds are proud of is that they try to attend to the needs of Muslims. Another issue is that right now, in establishments such as banks, employees have organized interest-free loan funds. Why have an interest-free loan fund

within a bank? Because it is an easier way to attend to people's affairs, and both the banks and the government have realized this need. For example, next to the Prime Minister's Office, we see that an interest-free loan fund has been established. There is a need, and they know that it is a system that can immediately help the nation. Therefore, not only is there no conflict with banking and banks, but it endorses the banking movement.

RESALAT: There is opposition to this agency in various circles, particularly the Majlis, and Mr Razavi, the representative to the Majlis, has spoken out on the issue. Please tell us your view.

Answer] Of course, certainly, some people start a job and are faced with opposition. I am really very disappointed in the gentleman who says he is informed and has not bothered to come here, sit down, and ask the question of whether we are a profit-making or nonprofit organization. How, then, can he allow himself to speak, contrary to the clear text of the Koran, from the official loudspeakers of the country on a subject about which he knows nothing? The Koran says: Anyone who obeys Islam must act in accordance with the instructions of Islam. If he obeys Islam, he must carry out its instructions. Why does he say something about which he is not informed? This gentleman has confessed himself that he is uninformed. In his speech, he states: Is this respected agency a nonprofit one or a treasury within the treasury? If you have no idea whether it is a nonprofit organization or a treasury, why do you say that it has acted contrary to the Koran? The second issue is: The agency invites all these Razavis, wherever they are, to come and see the work of the agency for themselves in order to know that there is no talk of the treasury. The function of the agency is to circulate the money in the various funds, organize it, channel it to one fund or another, and place it at the disposal of villagers, in keeping with Article 64. In Article 64, the stated goal in establishing the agency is to help make the national economy healthy, to serve the people, and to provide for a part of the needs of the society. Financial gain is not the objective of the shareholders. Hence, if at the end of the fiscal year there is any profit for the agency, it is donated to charitable establishments, upon the suggestion of the board of directors and with the approval of the usual general assembly, to strengthen the goals and foundation of the Islamic Republic, or it is allocated to studies and research in Islamic sciences or put to other charitable uses, which they determine. For example, last fiscal year, all the revenues were allocated to the war. How could he fail to ask these important questions and then come out with such a statement that was nothing to do with anything? This is condemned, from both an Islamic and a legal point of view. He and anyone else who has any doubt can come and see this organization for himself, investigate its affairs, and become familiar with its goals and actions. We are prepared for anyone, from anywhere throughout the country, who wants to come. We do not want to suggest that we are infallible or that we make no mistakes. We accept positive criticism in order to eliminate our mistakes. In essence, wherever something positive is done, a number of people oppose it. But we will not give up our goals because of opposition. We will pursue our goals until we obtain results. God willing, we will be able to extend aid to the oppressed throughout the country.

RESALAT: In conclusion, tell us some of the problems of the agency.

[Answer] Our main problem in this regard is that a number of people might misuse the sacred title and term, interest-free loan fund. Funds are in existence which give a scheduled loan. That is, they say: Deposit 1,000 rials or 10,000 rials with us and we will give you 80,000 rials within 3 or 6 months. The religious jurisprudential problems, which I am not qualified to give my views on, aside, in terms of accounting, it is a very wrong undertaking. Where will they get the money that they loan? They collect money from me so that they will give me a loan of several times that amount later. In one year's time, where will they get the other part to match as the loan? So, they operate for only one year. Now, what problems they have, I do not know, and do not want to discuss, because any decision about them will be handled by the supreme council. But, in this regard, they create problems for a number of people. We also warn the authorities of the country to stop such profiteering. For instance, in the Vahdat fund, when we went to audit them, we saw that, for example, a wealthy gentleman had deposited 20 million rials and was given a loan of 40 million rials. The purpose of the interest-free loan fund is not to serve the wealthy money hoarders. Some of these funds, which were centered originally in Qom, have gone to other cities and other areas of the country in order to collect money to bring back to Qom to meet their obligations. This is one of our problems, which we have mentioned to the authorities as well. But, fortunately, it is becoming clear to the society what these funds are, these funds that give scheduled loans. We declare that we do not support such funds by any means; they are by no means endorsed by us. And we announce to the nation that their commitments most certainly cannot be paid in the near future; they will go bankrupt and ruin the reputation of the interest-free loan funds. Hence, we announce: People, beware; do not be deceived by these establishments which make improper use of funds. I hope that we will have other very valuable and constructive movements throughout the country.

10,000

CSO: 4640/54

## IRAN

### MILLIONS SET ASIDE FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS IN SISTAN, BALUCHESTAN

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 1 Nov 86 p 10

[Interview with the deputy governor general of Sistan and Baluchestan by the media; date and place not specified]

[Text] About 500 million rials in funds during the present year have been allocated to the Province of Sistan and Baluchestan. In addition, in the recent visit of Mr Khamene'i, the president of Iran, to the province, 400 million rials in funds were also allocated to eliminate the educational problems of that province.

According to an IRNA report, this statement was announced by the deputy governor general of Sistan and Baluchestan in a press, radio and television interview.

Pointing out that about 37 million rials in provincial funds, following Paragraph B, Note 6, have been allocated this year to eliminate deprivation in Sistan and Baluchestan, he said: In addition to the allocation of 20 billion rials from the funds of Note 26 and the increase of up to 50 million rials, more than 2 billion rials have also been approved through the end of this year. Hopefully, after the funds are procured by the central office of economic affairs and finance from taxes for this year, this project will be implemented.

The developmental deputy governor general of Sistan and Baluchestan, emphasizing that in the funding for this year, agriculture, health and treatment, and education have been given priorities one to three respectively, also added: In 1365 [21 March 1986-20 March 1987], no building plans will be carried out throughout the province, and most projects can be completed.

He referred to the amount of purchases of surplus products of the farmers and said: This year, 9,330 tons of agricultural products, including 8,400 tons of wheat, 600 tons of dates, 3.5 tons of barley, and 328 tons of various fresh and dried fruits, were purchased from farmers, which indicates a 100-percent increase over the amount of purchases last year.

Pointing out that most of the people of this province are farmers and keepers of livestock and that 25 percent of the population is also active in the services sector, he said: Of the population of the Province of Sistan and Baluchestan, 40 percent have questionable jobs.

In this interview, the developmental deputy governor general of Sistan and Baluchestan emphasized that the focus of industry in this province is weak and said: Thus far, 21 agreements in principle involving 700 million rials in funds have been issued in the industrial sector, which will affect the employment of more than 300 persons.

He added: At the present time, about 500 production units are active under the supervision of the central office of industries and the center for the expansion of production and developmental services throughout the Province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

He referred to the health and treatment activities and said: Last year, 18 health and treatment projects were put into operation in the villages and cities of the province. This year as well, 11 other projects in health and treatment will be put into operation.

The developmental deputy governor general of the province emphasized that the health and treatment network of the city of Saravan is one of the best networks in the country and said: In these networks, we had about 60 treatment units; the number has now reached 116. In addition, the number of health offices existing in the Saravan network is 160 units, which will reach 484 units.

10,000

CSO: 4640/55

## IRAN

### LAND DEEDS ISSUED TO QUALIFIED FARMERS

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 1 Nov 86 p 10

[Excerpts] After the pre-agenda speeches and the reading of the reminders of the representatives to the executive authorities of the country, the Majlis went into session and, in the presence of members of the Council of Guardians, discussed the top-priority proposal to distribute barren and cultivated lands which, since the revolution, have been placed at the disposal of farmers in the form of temporary farming land. The amendments were examined. This discussion was continued from the previous session.

First, a number of representatives suggested that the term personally be omitted from Note 5. This suggestion was put to a vote and ratified.

Then, Mr Movahhedi-Kermani proposed that a new note replace Note 5: Persons who own up to 10 hectares in the plains of the Mazandaran coast, and in other places up to 20 hectares, if their ownership is proven and they engage in farming, will be excluded from the law and land will be returned to them. This proposal was put to a vote and was not ratified. Then, Mr Latif Safari's proposal concerning the replacement of Note 5 with one note was discussed in terms of the seven-member committees being responsible for returning to the farmers and small landowners up to a maximum of five times the common amount of land in the area belonging to such farmers and small landowners, who have no other source of income but farming and whose cultivated lands are included in the temporary farming lands. This proposal was put to a vote and was not ratified.

Then the proposal of Mr Movahhedi-Savoji was discussed, which calls for the replacement of Note 5 with the following note: Individuals who own land or land allotments, the ownership of which has been verified by the Revolution Court, and who do not have sufficient sources of income are excluded from compliance with this law for up to three times the common amount of land in the area; and if their land has been confiscated, it will be returned to them.

The above-mentioned proposal was put to a vote and ratified. Then, a number of representatives offered the following proposal to amend Note 6:



If the landowners refuse to comply with this law upon legal notification by the central headquarters of the land distribution committees, the land distribution committee, representing the person who has refused, will sign the documents.

Messrs 'Abdol'alizadeh and Mahdavi spoke in opposition and support of the proposal. The committee opposed this proposal. It was put to a vote and was not ratified.

Then, Mr Movahhedi-Kermani proposed a new note.

Note: In any case in which land has been taken away from qualified farmers, the Ministry of Agriculture shall be responsible, with the agreement of the said farmer and within its ability, to place at his disposal a plot of land to meet his needs for the purpose of farming. Messrs Khalkhali and Shahraki spoke in opposition and support of the proposal, and it was put to a vote and ratified. After the completion of the amendment proposal, in connection with the single article and the notes of the above-mentioned proposal, the single article and the nine notes of the top-priority proposal to distribute barren and cultivated lands which have been placed at the disposal of farmers as temporary farms were put to an emergency vote and were ratified as follows by the Majlis with two-thirds of the votes of the representatives.

Proposal to Distribute Barren and Cultivated Lands Which Have Been Placed at the Disposal of Farmers as Temporary Agricultural Lands Since the Revolution

Single Article. All barren and cultivated lands that in some manner have been placed at the disposal of non-owners, who have farmed the land (temporary farms), since the victory of the Islamic revolution, up to the end of 1359 [21 March 1980-20 March 1981] throughout the country and up to the end of 1363 [21 March 1984-20 March 1985] in Kurdish areas, will be transferred in installments to farmers with the following qualifications:

- A. Those who have little or no land
- B. Those who have no other source of income but farming
- C. Those who are residents of the area

The official registered deeds will be given to them in the form of conditional purchases, upon the request of a member of the land distribution committee. Once the last payment of the installments has been made, the deed will be finalized and the fair price of the land will be given to the landowner, after legal and religious debts have been deducted.

Note 1. Concerning the landowner or owners whose ownership is questioned or is problematic, upon the verification of the revolution court, the fair price shall be paid to them.

Note 2. Lands over which there is a religious agreement, such as leasing, purchasing, or share cropping, between the owner or owners and the present occupant or occupants shall be exempt from the terms of this law.

Note 3. That portion of the above-mentioned lands which are controlled by institutions will be placed at the disposal of the seven-member committees, to be acted upon in accordance with the contents of this single article.

Note 4. If the occupants do not meet the above-mentioned requirements, the land will be retrieved from them and placed at the disposal of the owner or otherwise acted upon in accordance with Note 3.

Note 5. Landowners or owners of land allotments will be exempted from this law for up to three times the common amount of land in the area, if the legitimacy of their ownership is verified by the revolution court. If the land has been occupied, it will be returned to them.

Note 6. In any case in which land has been taken away from qualified farmers, the Ministry of Agriculture shall, with the farmer's agreement, give such a farmer another plot of land appropriate to his needs for the purpose of farming.

Note 7. Should the landowner refuse to conform to this law, the central headquarters of the land distribution committees shall sign the related documents in place of the person who refuses.

Note 8. This law is to be implemented as needed for a period of three years beginning from the date of its ratification.

Note 9. The implemental bylaws of this law shall be prepared within a period of two months by the Ministry of Agriculture and the central headquarters of the land distribution committees and shall be approved by the Cabinet.

At 10:30, the Majlis went into recess. After the recess, when the session reopened, after announcing the names of those absent, Mr Mehdi Karubi, who chaired the session, announced its conclusion.

The Majlis will hold an open session on Tuesday.

10,000  
CSO: 4640/55

# UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BILL DETAILED

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 1 Nov 86 p 11

[Text] News division. In a meeting, the deputy minister of projects and planning of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs provided our reporter with the complete text of the unemployment insurance bill. This bill, which is now being examined in the committee on labor and social affairs of the Majlis, will be placed on the agenda of the Majlis after being approved by the committee.

Under the new economic conditions, with the reduction in the currency quota for production and industrial units, the unemployment insurance plan is one of the tools which can not only provide job security and minimum living expenses for workers under normal conditions, but under unusual conditions as well, it can minimize the unpleasant consequences of unemployment. This bill concerns workers who, as a result of shortages of raw materials, might become temporarily unemployed. This kind of insurance will help preserve the relationship between the worker and the production unit. Furthermore, with the training that this group of workers will be given during their unemployment, they will return to those units more equipped than before.

The cost of implementing this plan will put no financial burden on the government, since it will involve the participation of all employed workers and the collection of a minimal amount (2 percent) as the workers' contribution. Thus, while preventing the economic and social effects of unemployment, the plan will provide the minimum living expenses for a limited amount of time to those who become unemployed. The complete text of this bill is as follows.

## Text of the Unemployment Insurance Bill

Article 1. All persons subject to the social security law shall be subject to unemployment insurance, with consideration for the regulations of this law.

Article 2. An unemployed person, according to this law, is an individual who is subject to this law, who has become unemployed unwillingly and is seeking employment.

Note 1. That group of insured persons who are identified by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs as temporarily unemployed due to the changes in the economic structure shall be subject to the regulations of this law.

Note 2. The following groups are exempt from the regulations of this law.

A. Retired and generally disabled persons.

B. Seasonal workers, including those subject to the labor law and the agricultural labor law.

C. Independent craftsmen and businessmen.

D. Foreign nationals.

E. Employees who receive wages or salaries in any form from the general budget funds.

F. Employees in all contract (those subject to Article 38 of the social security law) and construction activities.

Article 3. Unemployment insurance is one of the means of social security, and the social security agency is charged with receiving the regular insurance premium and paying unemployment wages to insured persons who become unemployed in accordance with the regulations of this law.

Article 4. The insured person shall benefit from this law upon being identified in writing by the employer and upon the verification of his employment by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. In regards to those who are temporarily unemployed, their benefits will be protected in accordance with the regulations of the labor law, should they make use of unemployment insurance pay. The period for receiving unemployment insurance pay shall be calculated as a part of the recipient's employment record.

Regulations concerning the implementation of this law shall be prepared within a period of one month by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and shall be approved by the supreme labor council.

Article 5. Unemployment insurance premiums shall be 5 percent of the wages, of which 3 percent shall be paid by the employer and 2 percent by the insured person.

Note 1. The wages of the insured person and the procedures for determining unemployment insurance premiums--how they are to be collected, the duties of the insured and the employer, and also the procedure for investigating objections and other related regulations in this regard--shall be based on regulations that have been anticipated in the insurance premiums of other social security assistance in the social security law and regulations.

Note 2. As the government's share, subject to Article 28 of the social security law, during the period of implementation of the law, the latest salaries and benefits of the unemployed will be the basis for payment, which will be included in the government debt account and paid to the unemployment insurance plan account within a maximum of two years after the trial implementation of the law.

Article 6. Unemployed persons who have been insured shall be eligible to receive unemployment pay if they meet the following requirements.

A. The insured person must have paid for at least six months toward unemployment insurance within one year prior to becoming unemployed.

B. The insured person is responsible for informing the labor and social affairs unit of his unemployment and willingness to work within 15 days.

D. [as published] If necessary, the insured person shall participate in the training courses determined by the labor and social affairs unit and submit once every two months the necessary certification in this regard to the social security branches.

Note 1. For individuals who were insured in Esfand 1364 [20 February-20 March 1986] by the social security agency, the work period stated in Paragraph A of this article shall be 1/1/65 [21 March 1986], and for individuals who have been subject to the social security regulations, this date will be the base and the insurance premium share of the employer subject to Article 3 of this law may be collected only from the employer.

Note 2. Unemployment pay for insured persons who are employed in two or more jobs or workshops shall be paid if they become unemployed from all their jobs.

Note 3. Wage compensation for illness or pregnancy while the insured person is employed shall be taken into consideration in the history of the unemployment insurance:

Note 4. The time during which a worker receives unemployment insurance payments will be counted towards his retirement, disability, and death benefits for a period of three years, provided that the insurance premium is paid or arranged to be paid for this period, which will be calculated at 12 percent of the last salary and benefits of the insured person before becoming unemployed.

Article 7. The period for receipt of unemployment pay and the amount shall be as follows:

A. The unemployment salary shall be paid from the 11th day of unemployment until reemployment, and within a period of 3 years from the date of the implementation of this law, for a total maximum of 6 months for a single person, 8 months for a married person, and 10 months for a person over 50 years of age. The total of this period can be extended up to twice the period upon the determination of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.

B. The amount of unemployment pay for single persons shall be equivalent to the minimum wages determined by the supreme labor council and, in regards to married persons, 20 percent of the above amount shall be added for every dependent, up to a maximum of 3 persons, provided the amount would not exceed 100 percent of the average wages which were the basis for insurance premium deductions within 3 months of work prior to unemployment.

Note 1. The dependents in this law are the same individuals who are identified in Article 58 of the social security law.

Note 2. The insured unemployed person and his dependents shall benefit from treatment services by paying 2 percent of their unemployment pay.

Note 3. Like other social security payments, unemployment pay shall be exempt from any sort of tax.

Article 8. In the following cases, unemployment pay shall be severed.

A. When the insured person is reemployed.

B. If the insured person refuses for no justifiable reason to participate in the training courses announced by the local labor and social affairs unit.

C. The unemployed person refuses to accept employment offered to him.

D. The unemployed person becomes the recipient of another source of income while unemployed.

E. The insured person returns to work in some manner while receiving unemployment pay.

Note 1. If after the payment of unemployment salary, it becomes certain that the insured person was willingly unemployed and also that he has returned to work while receiving unemployment pay, the amounts received must be returned fully.

Note 2. If the unemployed person keeps his reemployment a secret and receives unemployment pay from the date of employment, in addition to a 2 percent penalty.

Note 3. Receiving living expenses during training shall not prevent the person from receiving unemployment pay.

Article 9. Employers are responsible for announcing the list of employment locations that are created to the local employment service centers. The employment location will be secured exclusively by these centers, to which the unemployed persons will be referred.

Article 10. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs is responsible for preparing labor identification cards for all persons subject to the labor law



within six months, to include the employment and unemployment situation, kind of skill, and other job-related characteristics.

Article 11. All regulations and bylaws that have been anticipated in the social security law ratified on 3/4/1354 [25 June 1975] and its later amendments in connection with insurance premiums and payment of compensation, salaries, and aid governing the insurance premium and the unemployment pay shall be subject to this law as well.

Article 12. The social security agency is responsible for keeping the accounts of the revenues from insurance premiums and the unemployment payments subject to this law separately and for reflecting them in its financial documents.

Article 13. The period for the implementation of this law is three years on a trial basis. The agency is responsible for procuring the expenditures subject to this law exclusively from the revenues obtained from its implementation. At the end of the trial period, the balance of the financial operations from the implementation of this law, including revenue deficits or surpluses, shall be included in the government accounts.

Note. If in the implemental stages of the plan the insurance premium revenue account has a deficit, the social security agency is responsible for making up this deficit and including it in the government debts.

Article 14. After the trial period, the social security agency must submit the implementation of this law to the government for study, with the results of the experiences obtained, in a report on the operation, as well as revisions in the amount of premiums subject to Article 5 of this law, to be presented to the Majlis for the permanent implementation of this law.

Article 15. The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the social security agency are the implementors of this law and a maximum of 1 percent of the collections from the implementation of this law shall be allocated with consideration for the necessary conservation to provide for the implemental expenditures of this law. Upon the approval of the supreme social security council, the share of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the social security agency shall be determined. If the above-mentioned amounts are not sufficient to cover the implementation expenditures, upon the suggestion of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the social security agency, the amount can be increased up to a maximum of 1 percent, with the approval of the supreme council of social security.

10,000  
CSO: 4640/56

MILITANT WOMEN MARCH IN CAPITAL

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 30 Nov 86 p 2

[Text] This morning, on the fifth day of mobilization week, "women's mobilization day," tens of thousands of mobilization sisters and women's public forces displayed their combative power and ability and their defense readiness in a widespread march.

The report from our Tehran correspondent indicates: From this morning, five divisions of women's mobilization forces assembled in Imam Khomeyni Square, the University of Tehran, Rah-e Ahan Square, and Jomhuri Square, displaying in an organized march a magnificent heroism of resistance, despite the severe rain, with slogans of, War, war to victory and Death to the United States. They also expressed their support for the war, the brave men of Islam, and the soldiers of Mohammad. Holding high their resistant, dignified faces, they marched towards the Majlis. On the streets where the march took place, the Hezbollah nation joined the mobilization sisters in support of the continuation of the sacred defense to its final victory.

Our reporter adds: Some of the sisters who are members of the agencies, ministries and universities also joined the mobilization sisters in orderly groups, with the coordination of the related authorities.

The same report indicates: Following the establishment of the working women's mobilization, the working women also participated in today's march by organizing an exemplary regiment along with the women's mobilization of the supreme assembly of the Islamic revolution.

The director of the women's mobilization center said in a brief interview with our correspondent: Today's nationwide march is in support of the war, the brave men of Islam, and the great dispatching of the soldiers of Mohammad. We hope that by sending 100,000 soldiers of Mohammad, the final victory will be achieved.

She added: In some cities and provinces, marches will take place this afternoon, because of the large number of female students and employees who have declared their readiness.

## The Resolution of the Women's Mobilization March

Our reporter added: At about 10:00 am, the people's forces assembled in front of the Majlis and the resolution of the women's nationwide march was read as follows by one of the mobilization sisters:

Now that the darkness-breaking lines of the 100,000-person mobilization of the army of Mohammad is about to destroy the dark thoughts of the heathens of history, now that the brave men of the fronts of light, the mobilization forces who are ready to sacrifice their lives, those who have made the essence of life a drop against the roaring flood and the destructive storm of oppression and destruction, and now that the East and the West, the sworn enemies of the revolution, have confessed to the combative capability of the Islamic brave men and find themselves impotent with regard to their steel will, we once again greet the travelers to Karbala, the soldiers of Mohammad.

The Muslim women, whose standard-bearer is the spirit of God, have organized a line as long as "resistance and self-sacrifice" in this great dispatch, behind the organized, enemy-breaking lines of the army of Mohammad, and will add to its ability and power, shouting: "Here we are, oh Khomeyni."

1. In accordance with the statement of our beloved imam, we consider the war to be our main issue and request that all the people and authorities mobilize all their resources for the final victory in the year of victory, and that the combatants of Islam inflict their ultimate blows as rapidly as possible.

2. In following the chief of the women of the world, her holiness Sadiqeh Tahereh, Fatemeh Zahra, we consider it necessary to support the Islamic revolution and to be present on all the scenes of the imposed war.

3. The center for the women's mobilization declares its readiness to achieve the decree of the imam of the nation regarding the creation of the necessary capabilities to defend, rescue and support within all strata of women.

4. We declare now to the honorable authorities of the country, particularly those who work in propaganda affairs, that we are prepared to employ all of our power in order to spread the authentic Islamic culture, particularly veiling, using propaganda methods to spread this principle in the society, and to fight anti-Islamic values in the areas of the economy, politics, the family and society.

5. We warn those who intend to create disunity among the authorities to stop their anti-Islamic and conspiratorial actions, to follow the guidance and leadership of religious guardianship, and not to divert the people's attention from the main issue, that is "the war." Otherwise, they shall suffer the fate of the past deviants at the hands of the Hezbollah.

6. Global oppression and heathenism, that is, the United States and the Soviet Union, must know that we will not compromise with them concerning our principles and our revolution. Our good relations with you will only be possible if you stop your domination of the oppressed societies and give the

oppressed people of the world their rights. Otherwise, you must forever mourn your weakness and impotence in the Kremlin and the White House; the independence, power and influence of Islam in the world will be proven to you.

7. We believe that the foundation of the cultural structure and the political power of the Islamic Republic is the leadership role of "religious guardianship" until the appearance of the Guardian of Time, may our souls be sacrificed for him. Hence, once again, we support our great leader Grand Ayatollah Montazeri and ask the mass media and the authorities to publish his statements, views and directives more widely and comprehensively in the society and to make use of them in implementing the economic, cultural, scientific, political and social programs.

10,000

CSO: 4640/44

RAFSANJANI LAUDS WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Dec 86 p 3

[Text] On the fifth day last week, the mobilization of tens of thousands of the Muslim women of our country gathered in front of the Majlis in a march from several routes, declaring its support for the Islamic combatants against heathenism, for the continuation of the sacred defense by the Islamic combatants, and for the expansive presence of the soldiers of Mohammad on the fronts of the imposed war.

In this magnificent assembly, the mobilization women of the centers for teacher training, the mobilization units of offices and factories, the mobilization units of students, and the regions and bases of the resistance of the Guards Corps mobilization of Zone 1 of Sarallah, carrying pictures of the imam of the nation and placards of the imam's statements concerning the importance of the mobilization forces, such as, "The mobilization combatants are symbols of love and self-sacrifice," displayed their widespread presence in defending the Islamic homeland.

The participants in this assembly shouted slogans--such as: The mobilization soldier fights, the Black House trembles; Our women are the supporters of the revolution; War, war to victory; and Death to the United States--and emphasized the continuation of the war to final victory.

According to this report, the marchers carried in front of them colorful banners with: There is no God but God; God is great; and The Army of Mohammad is coming. A group of small children wearing shrouds and red headbands on their foreheads also joined this great assembly.

The Statements of the Speaker of the Majlis

This report indicates that in the ceremonies to honor the fifth day of mobilization week, Hojjat ol-Islam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the representative of the imam to the Supreme Council for Defense, made a speech at the gathering of the mobilization sisters.

Thanking the sisters for their presence in front of the Majlis, he said: We consider this presence to be a source of pride for ourselves. We have had

many of these magnificent scenes, but this assembly has a characteristic that must be noted.

Emphasizing that the spiritual change in the Muslim women of Iran is a very valuable point in the history of women in Islam, he said: It never occurred in the minds of those whose goal has been the progress and freedom of women that chaste and self-sacrificing women should show their presence in the way that our mobilization sisters are present on the scene.

He added: Islam has given us this movement, and to a great extent we are indebted to the efforts of the committed sisters.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani then said: The fact that the imam of the nation considers the change in the society as due to your presence on the political, military and social scenes, the fact that the Majlis has included your proper military training among its ratifications, and the fact that you have taken the responsibility for a major part of the services for the combatants behind the front indicate the success of this movement.

He pointed out: Undoubtedly, the Islamic world in the future will use you Hezbollah woman as a role model. The day that more than half a million women of the world, like you, take part in the issues of the society and are liberated from that kind of moral corruption, the Islamic society will find its way.

Referring to the skill of the mobilization sisters in military techniques, the speaker of the Majlis said: Your courage, bravery and unmatched spirit shows a great change. This change cannot be sought in the made-up faces of women who are trying to bring other women to decadence in the society.

Describing as a source of pride the fact that about one million women have taken military training, he said: In a society that has one million women ready for defense, every one of these women can be an incentive for 10 others in her family to defend their Islamic homeland.

Referring to the valuable role of the wives, daughters and sisters of the martyrs in filling the fields of holy war with combative young men, the representative of the imam to the Supreme Council for Defense said:

Today, Muslim women who have been freed from the chains of the tyrant have the arena, and this revealing scene can be a model and an incentive for the export of the revolution, boosting the morale of the Islamic combatants and awakening the sleeping forces.

Emphasizing that today the great women of the dawn of Islam are proud of them, he said: When her holiness Zahra, her holiness Zeynab, and other great women of history appeared on the military and political fields, they wanted to be models, and you have used them very well as models.



Mr Hashemi added: These actions of yours are the best means of defense. Our enemies know that if they are to enter this country, they will confront millions of trained men and women. In conclusion, on behalf of the imam of the nation and other authorities of the Islamic Republic, he thanked the mobilization sisters for their united presence in front of the Majlis.

#### Statements of Sister Dastgheyb

According to this report, in these ceremonies, Sister Dastgheyb, the representative of the Majlis, said: Following the decree of the imam of the nation, our women rose up in defense to fight against the enemies and declared their readiness throughout the country.

She said: Our sisters and mothers today are working hard behind the front, while observing religious rules and preserving their chastity, and they are the pulse of this nation.

She emphasized: Our mobilization sisters today renew their covenants with great Zeynab with this march, because their children have also had a covenant with their sire, Imam Hoseyn.

Referring to the courage of the mobilization sisters, Ms Dastgheyb said: Your self-sacrifice will be recorded in history and will never be erased from the hearts of pure and loving human beings.

In conclusion, pointing out the great change in the Muslim women of our country, she said:

With clenched fists, our women warn those women who have not yet recognized the path of truth and life in darkness that if they want to realize their human worth, they should make the Muslim women of the Islamic Republic their model.

According to the report of the IRNA correspondent, in the conclusion of the ceremonies of the magnificent assembly of the mobilization sisters, a seven-point resolution was published.

This resolution states in part: In accordance with the decree of our beloved imam, we consider the war to be our main concern and ask all the people and authorities to mobilize all their resources for the purpose of final victory in the year of victory, and for the Islamic combatants to strike their final blows as soon as possible.

Another part of this resolution, declaring the continual presence of the sisters on the scenes to support the Islamic revolution, states: We are ready to use all of our power to spread authentic Islamic culture, particularly veiling, and the propaganda values of this principle, in the society and to fight anti-Islamic values in their economic, political, family and social forms. The resolution, expressing its support once again for the deputy of the leader, adds: We believe that the foundation of the cultural structure and political power of the Islamic Republic is in the rule of "religious guardianship" and its leadership until the appearance of the Guardian of the Time, may our souls be sacrificed for him.

## IRAN

### HIGH NUMBER OF CASUALTIES REPORTED DURING LAST ATTACK

London KEYHAN in Persian 8 Jan 87 p 16

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] While the officials of the Islamic Republic continue to speak about the victory in the Karbala-4 operations, victory celebrations are also being held in Iraq for these operations.

The Islamic Republic has reported the killing and injury of 3,500 Iraqi soldiers in this attack. Iraq has estimated the number of Iranian casualties and wounded at 90,000 in the Karbala-4 battle. This figure has been denied by the official media of the Islamic Republic.

The official Iraqi army announcement states that 32,344 Iranian armed personnel were killed in battle with the Iraqi seventh army. This announcement does not mention the number of casualties of the seventh Iraqi army.

The government of Iraq took a large number of foreign reporters to the war fronts and claimed that the Islamic government suffered a severe defeat in its last attack on Iraqi soil and has not even been able to advance an inch into that country. The Islamic Republic has previously announced that it had occupied the Island of Om ol-Rasa, 60 km from Basra, but this was not verified by the foreign reporters.

The REUTERS reporter who visited the Shat al-Arab war zones wrote: In an area 100 meters long, I counted 96 corpses of Iranian soldiers.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS pointed out in a report from the Karbala-4 operations that in their attack of the last week, Iranians occupied four small Iraqi islands in the Shat al-Arab, but, because of the severe attacks of the Iraqi forces, they were forced to retreat. Baghdad television news programs showed films of the corpses of Iranian forces and prisoners. These films, which were also shown on European television, showed that most of those killed were members of the mobilization forces. Reports also indicate that these operations were planned and carried out by the Guards Corps and the mobilization forces.

The commander of the Iraq seventh army described the Karbala-4 attack as very expansive and said: The Iranian forces started moving towards Basra in a front 32 km long and tried to reach the Basra coast with the help of their navy and air force, but they were forced to retreat due to very heavy casualties.

He added: With its unsuccessful attack, the Islamic government intended to achieve new military gains at the beginning of the Islamic conference in Kuwait. Meanwhile, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i announced the Karbala-4 operation as very limited and added: This operation was in response to the recent attacks on Iranian cities. The spokesman of the Guards Corps also announced that the Islamic Republic will begin its destiny-making attack at an appropriate time. The officials of the Islamic Republic announced several months ago that the fate of the war will be determined by the end of this year. However, they recently said that they are waiting for favorable political conditions to launch the destiny-making attack. Hashemi-Rafsanjani also postponed the destiny-making attack to an appropriate time.

We should point out that the Islamic Republic and Iraq both announced that the Shat al-Arab battle, which was named Karbala-4 by Iran, has concluded. Reports from news agencies indicate a large number of casualties suffered by Iranian forces, and the Islamic Republic reports that new forces are continually being dispatched to the front.

10,000

CSO: 4640/62

## IRAN

### THOUSANDS SAID SENT TO DIE DUE TO GROUP INFIGHTING

London KEYHAN in Persian 8 Jan 87 p 6

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] The latest attack of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Iraqi position in the Basra area failed. It is not thought that this defeat will bring the unending Iraq-Iran war to an end. Before this attack, the fear existed in the capitals of the Middle Eastern countries that Iran would win in the attack and occupy Basra.

With the failure of the "Karbala-4" attack on the Basra area, very heavy casualties, in terms of lives and financially, were inflicted on the Islamic Republic. However, this bitter event has, at the same time, raised numerous important issues, a review of which can clarify for us the future of the war.

When Iran was defeated, the countries in the region, including Israel, sighed with relief, because it became clear that Iraq's military power was strong enough to withstand Iran, whereas earlier, Iran seemed to be stronger and had, in its frequent attacks in previous months, imposed several large defeats on Iraq.

In Israel, it is said that Iran did not intend to attack Iraq in the last 10 days of December. The extremist faction in the regime had pressured Iran into launching the attack. In order to satisfy this extremist group, which is opposed to any kind of contact or relations with the United States and Israel, the Islamic Republic engaged in the attack, and paid the price, as well, without being able to harness this faction or dismiss its elements from the position of decision making.

Had Iran become victorious in this attack, the extremist, fundamentalist faction in the regime, like other pressure groups in the government who oppose ties with Western countries, would have taken the upper hand and may have succeeded in removing the potential rivals in the battle to succeed Ayatollah Khomeyni and come to the fore.

However, the failure in this attack had a negative affect on these groups. They are now in a weakened position, without being completely neutralized,

vis-a-vis the moderate faction that supports relations with the West and that has negotiated with the United States and received arms.

The neutralization of the extremist group in the Islamic regime, which does not seem to be very farfetched, is not possible without a bloody purge. The "moderate" faction, led by Hashemi-Rafsanjani, knows this. However, the present situation is too involved to allow him to engage in this inevitable purge, since, like others, he has also promised the Iranian people an end to the war by the end of 1365 [21 March 1986-20 March 1987] and victory for the Islamic Republic. Such a purge might hinder this hope, which seems more than ever unattainable. Based on these and other considerations, among which are arms hidden behind the veils of internal rivalries and unending clerical conflicts, this purge has been put off to a future date.

But with favorable conditions and time, the question will be: Who granted permission to the officials of the Islamic Republic to sacrifice 34,400 Iranian youths in order to appease the extremist faction in the regime, gaining nothing but humiliation and shame? On that day, the Iranian nation will ask: If the Karbala-4 attack was the wish of the extremist faction and 34,400 Iranian youths were sent to their deaths, were the other futile and fruitless attacks which took place after the enemy was driven back from the borders of the country and the spilling of the blood of several thousand Iranian youths also the wish of the extremist faction or the wish of the pseudo-pious moderates of today?

10,000

CSO: 4640/62

ANTI-REGIME 'COMBAT WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION' APPEALS TO UN

London KEYHAN in Persian 8 Jan 87 p 9

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] We, the free, combatant Iranian women, hereby bring our justice-seeking voices to the world, on the anniversary of women's liberation in Iran. Fifty-one years ago, on a day like today, his majesty, Reza Shah Pahlavi, issued the unveiling decree and freed the Iranian women from the chains and shackles of black veils and sent them to the universities alongside their brothers.

During his reign, Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi granted the law for the political and social rights of women, including participation in the elections of the two houses of Parliament, and Iranian women became partners in all affairs of the country and attained such high positions as ambassador, minister, attorney, and judge.

Because they enjoyed all human rights, Iranian women demonstrated that they are capable of being active and effective in scientific, cultural, political, social, artistic and even athletic areas and of achieving great progress. Unfortunately, with the invasion of a bunch of regressive plunderers on our beloved homeland, who, dressed in the sacred clerical garb, inflicted the greatest of harms on Islam and true clerics and who have no goal but the destruction of Iran, killing Iranians and spreading ignorance, corruption and superstition, through violating all social and political rights of women, once again, they have been confined in veils and made equivalent to the property of men. We have reached a point in the present laws in which a woman's blood can be bought off for a mere pittance and two eyes of a woman are worth one eye of a man.

The stoning of women, one-hour temporary marriages, husbands marrying numerous wives without the consent of the previous wife, and the divorcing of women without their being informed are among the gifts that the present regime has offered to Iranian women. In the terrible dungeons of the regime, female prisoners are raped, dishonored and tortured without anyone coming to their aid.



In the period of terror in our homeland, during the darkest period in the history of our country, when demons have destroyed all that is sacred to us as a nation, and the sharp points of whose daggers have split the hearts of all Iranian mothers, we, the Iranian women, will not be negligent, even for a moment, under the deadly whips of the false clergy, in fighting the enemies of religion and the nation. Until our last drop of blood is spilled, we will continue untiringly our struggle to regain our lost rights, to return to the civilized world and a status deserving of Iranian women, and to liberate our country from the demons. Now, once again, on a day like this, we ask all international authorities, particularly the committee on the status of women in the United Nations, in the name of humanity, to help us in the dangerous path ahead of us and place an investigation of the condition of women in present-day Iran on their agenda.

With the most deserving of steps

The Free, Combatant Women's Organization of Iran

10,000

CSO: 4640/63

OPPOSITION PAPER PORTRAYS GLOOMY FUTURE FOR ECONOMY

London KEYHAN in Persian 8 Jan 87 p 9

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] From the beginning of 1979 to the end of 1986, Iran has not seen a worse year in terms of the economy than 1986. The unprecedented reduction of currency revenues from the sale of oil has caused the level of imports to drop significantly and has vastly limited production and industrial activities as well. Corresponding with the appearance of the above-mentioned problems, the Islamic Republic must concentrate all its financial and economic power on keeping prepared the long front of the war against Iraq. The necessity for battle readiness has doubly worsened the economic situation of the country.

According to the reports of experts on Middle Eastern affairs, the Islamic Republic has estimated its crude oil production in 1365 [21 March 1986-20 March 1987] at 1.3 million barrels of oil per day. Even though this production figure of 1.3 million barrels daily is only 300,000 barrels less than the goal, because of the drop in oil prices, the revenues of the Islamic Republic through the export of this source of energy has been reduced by more than half. The drop in the oil revenues by more than half has also caused imports to decrease at the same level. Based on estimates made, the maximum value of the imports of the Islamic Republic in 1365 [1986-87] will not exceed \$10 billion.

Due to the obvious currency restrictions, the Iranian Central Bank avoids issuing credit documents and has restricted currency funds to those involving the import of special priority goods. At the top of the list of imported goods is the import of weapons, ammunition and goods for the war. The value of this kind of goods this year has been estimated at \$1.5 billion. Most factories and production units which were previously engaged in the production of general consumer goods are now forced to produce goods that are used for the war.

The government has also been forced to determine its list of industrial activities that are to be given priority and to impose severe special policies regarding these activities.

In early 1986, 70 essential industrial projects were given special priority. At the head of these projects are the Mobarakeh steel project, the Arak petrochemical complex, the Arak oil refinery, the Kangan natural gas complex, the automatic manufacturing factories in Tehran and Yazd, and several industrial and mining complexes, as well as pharmaceutical and cement production factories.

#### Government Financial Problems and Being Forced to Receive Aid from Banks

Recently, the government of the Islamic Republic, due to shortages of financial resources, invited the banks to take over the supervision and operation of and partial financial provision for the priority production projects. The largest agreement in this area that has reached the final stages confers the activities of the Arak petrochemical complex on the Melli Bank. The cost of carrying out this project has been estimated at \$1,500 million. The technical implementer of this project is the Italian company, (Tekni) petrol. Apparently, steps similar to that of the Arak petrochemical complex will soon be taken in regards to the Tehran subway project. In addition to these two projects, some time ago, the 15 Khordad foundation was given the responsibility for providing the \$130 million in finances needed for the creation of the Qom dam, with the cooperation of the Ministries of Water and Electricity and the Reconstruction Crusade.

According to MID, a weekly publication, despite the financial problems, the position of the government of Mir Hoseyn Musavi appears to be strong. Nevertheless, the negative results of the decrease in oil revenues are appearing gradually in the Iranian society. Industrial production has dropped significantly. Unemployment even exceeds 20 percent. There is an unprecedented halt in the distribution of foodstuff. Severe shortages of foodstuff are observed in stores. Last October, gasoline rationing also added to the economic problems and pressures of the people.

#### Increase of Non-Petroleum Exports to Reach Self-Sufficiency

The economy and the related policies are very much colored by the war. In order to make up for a part of its shortages, the government has coordinated an overall effort towards self-sufficiency and encourages the people in this connection. As a result of these policies, Iranian export revenues have increased in the area of non-petroleum products. The Islamic government intends to increase the currency revenues from Iranian exports to \$1 billion by the end of this year. Along with these steps, the government has also engaged in several bartering agreements to exchange crude oil for goods. In addition, bartering transactions in the area of the delivery of traditional products in exchange for industrial goods is also thriving, especially in the private sector. The merchants and those active in the private sector are trying to find markets for the sale of agricultural products and traditional Iranian goods and to procure sources of currency which are outside the control of the Central Bank.

## IRAN

### BRIEFS

BONUS TO WHEAT FARMERS--Economic service. As a special bonus to the wheat farmers of Tehran Province, Peykan pickup trucks were ready for delivery this morning, Saturday, at the Iran Khodrow factory. According to a report by the KEYHAN economic correspondent, the quota, about 600 Peykan pickup trucks, will be delivered to the proper authorities. Some time ago, the rural cooperative organization of Tehran Province determined the bonuses for wheat farmers in a communique, according to which for every 150 tons of wheat delivered, one Nissan pickup truck and for every 100 tons of wheat one Peykan pickup truck would be given as a bonus to the wheat farmers of Tehran Province. For this reason, this morning, 600 Peykan pickup trucks, the quota for the wheat farmers of Tehran Province, were delivered to the officials at the Iran Khodrow factory. [Text] [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 18 Oct 86 p 3] 10,000

CSO: 4640/53

COMMENTARY ON GOVERNMENT MALTREATMENT OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

Karachi AMN in Urdu 16 Nov 86 p 2

[Column "From Jumma Khan's Pen"]

[Excerpt] Representatives of human rights commissions and journalists from other countries came to Pakistan out of concern over the incidents that took place in various villages in Sind in the month of August. They visited the affected areas, saw a lot with their own eyes and heard for themselves the stories of cruelty from the affected people. They made films, and many newspapers published stories in some detail. One such film was made by Pakistanis; it was prepared by the Human Rights Commission here and has been exhibited a number of times. Did the minister in charge of prisons make any effort to ascertain the truth and obtain detailed information in this connection? Does he know that political prisoners may be chained, and yet many such prisoners were put in chains and kept in crowded wards? Does he know that sick prisoners are not given effective medical treatment and that many of them die due to violent punishment or lose their mental balance?

A young political prisoner, Saleem Khan, who lost his mental balance was recently transferred from the Karachi jail to the Jinnah hospital. There was a police guard outside his room, but nevertheless his feet were chained. Pictures of this political prisoner have been published in the press. Has the minister in charge of prisons taken the trouble to inquire why such inhuman treatment was meted out to this prisoner?

It was also in August that many women were arrested in various villages in Sind. They were arrested so brutally that three pregnant women lost their babies. The policemen even removed cash and jewelry from their homes. The policemen were bribed into releasing the women, but it is regrettable that the minister did not demonstrate sympathy for them.

The minister had so much sympathy for a prisoner in Dadu district that a written order was given telling the area police not to submit any report on that prisoner. Why did not Syed Koral Shah show any sympathy for other prisoners, especially for those that were maltreated. Are they not human beings, are they not Pakistanis, are they not Muslims? If they had had similar influence over Syed Koral Shah, they too would have been able to

obtain a letter of recommendation from him and would have been spared being treated worse than animals. I would like to advise this minister, instead of declaring his political adversaries unworthy in his own society, to focus his attention on performing his official duty as the minister in charge of prisoners and to take the necessary steps to insure that the jail staff members in Sind do not violate the law. In that way he will prove himself to be a responsible and worthy minister. He should pay unexpected visits to the prisons, meet directly with the prisoners in different wards. In order that the prisoners may be able to talk freely about the existing conditions, prison staff members should not be present during these meetings. If he were to hear about these conditions he would not be able to keep himself from weeping and to repent that during his ministry the prisons have been turned into cells of torture, punishment and inhuman treatment.

If even after Syed Koral Shah, minister in charge of prisons, does not visit the prisons and put an end to the cruelty and persecution, then on doomsday, together with the prisoners, I too will call him to account for his actions.

9315/13104

CSO: 4656/26



## ATTENTION TO PUBLIC SERVICE PROBLEMS IN KARACHI URGED

Karachi AMN in Urdu 11 Nov 86 p 2

[Excerpt] The federal and Sind governments receive the largest share of their taxes from Karachi, but the major portion of these taxes is given to Northwest Frontier and Baluchistan Provinces in the form of aid to eliminate the backwardness from these areas. More than half of the taxes and other revenues the government collects from the entire country are spent on the army and other government employees, with the results that very little is left for development projects. And half of that amount is spent on paying the interest on foreign loans. Under these conditions it is impossible to carry out work on large-scale national development and prosperity. Every year, we have to secure hundreds of millions of rupees in loans so as to carry on some kind of development project, but every annual budget is a witness to the fact that new development projects are not made to complete the unfinished work on old ones.

The federal government had been levying an educational surcharge, saying that the revenue thus accrued would be utilized for the promotion of education. Despite the fact that hundreds of millions of rupees have been collected from the educational surcharge, not a single school has been opened in any of the four provinces of the country, and many of the nationalized educational institutions have on one pretext or another been returned to their former owners so that the latter may again turn these institutions into commercial organizations and start charging unbearable fees to the parents of poor students.

The government does not lack funds to purchase F-16 sophisticated AWACS aircraft, but it does not have any money to build a women's university, a bridge on the Landhi railway crossing, a new medical college in Karachi or to construct basic civil facilities in the temporary settlements.

When the number of dacoits in Sind reaches 500, it is considered necessary to call in the military, which despite months of effort remains unsuccessful in crushing banditry. When the members of two communities clash in Karachi, a curfew is imposed and the military are called in, but the number of casualties and the damage to property in the riots instead of declining increases even more. Neither are the rioters caught nor are their illegal arms found. But when it comes to arresting politicians and political workers, then all politicians and thousands of political workers are arrested overnight. For

this purpose it is not necessary to deploy the army or to impose a curfew. It appears that our police force is particularly well equipped to deal with political opposition and has been trained by some superpower. But when it comes to confronting bandits, rioters, disruptive and other antisocial elements, then it is absolutely helpless. Thus, a curfew has to be imposed time and again, and it is deemed necessary to call in the army.

If the government is really interested in looking after the interests of the country and the nation and in maintaining law and order, then it must approve special development funds to solve the problems facing Karachi and at the same time provide employment opportunities not only for the educated but also for the uneducated unemployed people in the capital as well as the interior of Sind.

If the local residents of Sind--that is, the educated as well as the uneducated permanent residents in this province--remain unemployed while the people coming from other provinces gain employment, then the difficulties and perplexities of the local residents will naturally increase. The present rulers have failed to understand the reasons for political, social and economic ills, and thus they cannot solve them effectively. If there is any improvement, it will only prove to be on a temporary basis and the fundamental roots of the problem will remain.

9315/13104  
CSO: 4656/26

END

**END OF**

**FICHE**

**DATE FILMED**

MARCH 6, 1987